14780

THE LIBRARY CHRONICLE.

THE LIBRARY CHRONICLE

A JOURNAL OF LIBRARIANSHIP & BIBLIOGRAPHY

VOL. I.

EDITED BY
ERNEST C. THOMAS
HON. SECRETARY.

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED FOR
The Library Association of the United Kingdom,
BY J. DAVY & SONS,
DRYDEN PRESS: 137, LONG ACRE, LONDON.
New York: Office of the Library Journal.
M.D.CCC.LXXXIV.

DRYDEN PRESS:
J. DAVY AND SONS, 137, LONG ACRE, LONDON, W.C.

Stechford, Chicago JAN 25

INDEX.

ABERDEEN, Meetings to consider Lib. Acts, 22; Acts adopted, 49.
Aberdeen Pub. Lib., A.W. Robertson appointed lbn. 175.
Adams' Hand-book of American Authors, 178.
Alings, Catal. Bibliothecae Guyotianae, 78.
America, proposed visit to, J. Winsor on, 200.
American Librarians in Congress, 39.
American local Hist., 103.
Anderson, J. P. *Estimate of the Contents of the British Museum Library*, 65.
Anglo-Saxon MSS., Earle on, 103.
Anonymous Books, authorship of, 32, 55, 179, 204.
"Anzeiger (Neuer) für Bibliographie," (May) 75; (Jun.) 100; (Jul.) 133; (Aug.-Sept.) 157; (Oct.) 176; (Nov., Dec.) 200.
Arbroath, death of T. Mason, 175.
Arnold, Matthew, Bibliography of, 103.
Art Age, The, 20-3.
Ashburnham MSS. 79.
Ashton-under-Lyne, Free Lib. Catalogue, 134.
Assistants, Library-, Proposed examination of, 183.
Associazone Bibliofila, Proposed, 114.
Aston, Free Lib., Annual Report, 158.
Astor Lib. gift to, 132.
Auctioneers' bibliography, 55.
Australian Libraries, 160.
Austria, libraries of, appropriations for, &c., 52.
Axon, W. E. A., *First English Book on Angling*, 121, 143; his Cheshire Gleanings, 78; on Nathaniel Bailey, 79; *Nicolas Trübner*, 42; Byron's Influence on European Lit., 20.

Baker, Sir T., bibliography of Cross Street Chapel, Manchester, 78.
Bamberg, Royal Lib., Art collections of, 132.
Banbury Institute, Opening of, 118.
Barrow-in-Furness, Free Public Library, Annual Report, 101, 201.
Becker, Catal. Bibliothecarum Antiqui, 136, 160, 202.
Belfast, Free Public Library, laying of foundation stone, 118.
Bell, A Forgotten Genius: Charles Whitehead, 178.
Bell, Prof. and Bibliography of Electricity, 79.
Bennis, G. C., Query as to, 32.
Berlin, Royal Lib., 25, 99, 132, 133, 157.
Berry, Duc de, Livres d'heures, 79.
"*Bibliographer*," The, 103, 133, 157, 159, 178, 203.
"Bibliophile Jacob," Death of, 200.
Bibliorum Sacrorum Exemplaria Lindesiana, 102.
Bibliothekswesen, Centralblatt für, *see* Centralblatt.
Bibliothèque Cynégétique d'un Amateur, 102.
Birkenhead, Public Library, W. May appointed librarian, 22; Mr. W. Jones and the, 197.
Birmingham, Free Library, lectures at, 23; Reference Library Catalogue, 29; Annual Report, 101; Birmingham, Catalogue of Bibliography, 177.
Birmingham School of Art, inscription stone laid, 97.
Blackburn, Hints on Catalogue Titles, &c., 78.
Blume's Museum Botan., 160.
Bodleian, Size-Notation at the, 191.
Bodley's librarian, caricature of, 199.
Bolton, Pub. Free Lib. Annual Report, 201.
Bonaventure's Life of Christ, English translation of, 159.
"Book-Lore," 203.
Bookseller's Cataloguing Blunder, 179.
Bookworm engraved in *Publishers' Circular*, 136.
Bootle, meeting to consider Library Acts, 50.
Borrajo, E. M., New Indicator, 99.
Boston, Libraries of, forthcoming book on, 132.
Boston (U.S.) Pub. Lib. invites designs for library, 27; Handbook for Readers, 29; Annual Report, 29, 177; Autumn Bulletin, 54.
Brabys', Messrs. Lib. 74.
Bradford, resignation of C. G. Virgo, librn. 175.
Bradshaw, H., on Printing, 103.
Bray, Mrs. and her Writings, 126, 160.
Brewer, Authors and their Works, 102.
Brisbane, public library for, 200.
Briscoe, J. P. "Old Nottinghamshire," 25.
Bristol, Museum and Library, Annual Report, 158.
British Museum Library, Engineer on, 25; *Estimate of the Contents of*, 65; Wycliffe Exhibition, 98; Wycliffe Exhibition Catalogue, 102; Special Reference Collection on Art, etc. 118; *A Year's Work at the*, 124; Mr. Bond Interviewed, 131; Annual Report, 134; Catalogue of English Books to 1640, 134; Dr. Garnett retires from Reading-room, 108.
Brown, J. D. on Musical bibliography, 86.
Brussels, Library of the Palais burnt, 25.
Buffalo (U.S.) Young Men's Association, Annual Report, 119.
Burlington, (Vt.) Fletcher Free Lib. closing of, 200.
Bury, Richard de, and his Editors, 148, 170.

Cairo, Khedivial Lib., 75, 100.
California, Bancroft's bibliography of, 136.
Cambridge, Archæological Museum, opening of, 73; proposed library, 50.
Cambridge, Free Library, opening of new reading room, 118; Annual Report, 201.
Campbeltown, movement to adopt Lib. Acts, 23.
Cardiff, Free Lib. Comm. and the librarian's salary, 98; J. Ballinger appointed librarian, 118.
Castellani, Biblioteche nell' antichità, 203.
"Centralblatt für Bibliothekswesen," 75, 100, 133; 157, 176.
Chelsea, need for public library, 131.
Chester, Free Lib., decision to open on Sundays, 155.
Chesterfield, Free Lib. books lent to non-residents, 23; Annual Report, 77.
Cheltenham, Public Lib. W. Jones appointed librarian, 23; opening of 155, 175, 197; proposed new building, 197.
Circulars of Bureau of Education, Shorthand, 159.
Classification for Free Pub. Libs. sub-committee appointed, 196.
Classification of Literature, The, 181.
Cologne, Stadtbibliothek, 176.

Columbia College Lib. 100; *Mr. Melvil Dewey's work at*, 186.
Cotgreave, A., Lib. appliances on exhibition, 99.
Country Gentleman's Ref. Catal. 54.
Copyright, Scrutton's Laws of, 194.
Correspondence, 55, 80, 104, 120, 136, 160, 179, 204.
Crossley Sale Catal., 79.

Darlington Free Lib. Laying of Foundation Stone of, 98.
Darwen, Free Pub. Lib., Annual Meeting, 73.
Delisle, L., Livres d'Heures du Duc de Berry, 79; Ecole calligraphique de Tours, 160.
Derby Free Lib., H. Allpass appointed librarian, 90; Annual Report, 202.
Deutsche Buchhändler-Akademie, 103.
Dewey's, Mr. Melvil, work at Columbia College, 186.
Dickinson, D. *Free Public Libraries and Subscription Libraries*, 142.
Doncaster, Free Lib. Annual Report 29; W. E. Williams appointed librarian, 118.
Douthwaite, W. R., *Humfrey Wanley and his Diary*, 87, 110.
Dresden, Catalogue of Klemm's Bibliographisches Museum, 100.
Drink, Bibliography of, 136.
Dublin, Librarians on working of Lib. Acts in England, 155; *The Library Association at*, 161; National Library of Ireland, plans for, 73.
Dudincke, Palatium Apollinis, 55, 80.
Dumbarton, Free Public Library, proposed catal. 133.
Dundee, Free Lib., Annual Report, 29, 202.
Dury, John, and the Reformed Library-keeper, 1.

Ealing, Free Pub. Lib., Annual Report, 119.
Earle on Anglo-Saxon MSS., 103.
Eddas, bibliography of, 103.
Edinburgh, Advocates' Lib., work done in 1883, 23.
Edmands, Reading Notes on Luther, 31; Reading Notes on Wycliffe, 103.
Edmond, Aberdeen Printers, 78, 178.
Edwards, E., *Researches for MSS. in the Levant*, 57, 81, 105.
Egger, Prof., on Indexes and the "Index Society," 55.
Egypt, bibliography of History of, 79.
Electricity, bibliography of, Bell, 79; Frost, 79.
Elgin, Library Acts Rejected, 23.
Estcourt, C. *First English Book on Angling*, 165.
Estimate of the Contents of the British Museum Library, 65.
Examination, Librarianship at Paris, 26, 132.
Examination of Library Assistants, Proposed, 183.

Fabris, A. M., Death of, 26.
Fawcett, late Professor, Evening with, 199.
Finspong, Leges Bibliothecae, 18.
First English Book on Angling, 121, 143, 165.
Flower-Lore, Bibliography of, 103.
France, Special local bibliographies, 178.
France, Voluntary and State-Supported Libraries, 133.
Frankfurt Stadt-Bibliothek, Luther books, 132.
Free Public Libraries and Subscription Libraries, 142.
Free Public Libraries, Rating of, 167.
Friend, Bibliography of Flower-Lore, 103.
Frost, A. J., bibliography of Earth Currents, 79; Electric Telegraph, 79.

Galashiels, Free Library, Annual Report, 177.
Garnett, Dr. R., *Librarianship in the Seventeenth Century*, 1; retires from British Museum Reading Room, 198.
Glasgow, *North British Mail* on Libraries for, 131.
Glasgow, Libraries' Scheme, 23; Stirling's and G. Pub. Lib., Annual Meeting, 50; Annual Report, 101.
Glasgow, Mitchell Library, Annual Report, 101.
Goebel, Karl, oldest library official in Germany, 27.
Göttingen, Death of Dr. Löwe, 25; Codex Corvinianus at, 51.
Groningen, Guyot Library at, Catalogue of, 78.
Gutenberg, Claudin on a new document relating to, 136.
Guyot Library at Groningen, Catalogue, 78.

Halifax, Public Library, Catalogue, 177.
Halle University Library, 133.
Handsworth, Public Library, Annual Report, 119.
Harrison, R. *Charles Nodier*, 33.
Hartwig, Dr. O. 27.
Harvard Univ. Bulletin for January, 54; for May, 103; Oct., 203.
Harvard Univ. L. Bibliographical Contributions, 78, 135.
Hawkins, Titles of the First Books, 135.
Henderson, *Ode for the Opening of the Toronto Free Public Library*, 70.
Hessels, J. H., asks for Gasparini Pergamensis Orthographia, 55.
Hirzel, Verzeichniss einer Goethe-Bibliothek, 54.
Holgate, C. W., Australian Libraries, 160.
Home Office, Circular as to Public Libraries, 156.
Hucknall Torkard, Library Acts adopted, 74; Offer of Building for Library, 118.
Huddersfield, Offer of £5,000 for Free Library, 175.
Humfrey Wanley and his Diary, 87, 110.
Huth Library, 32.

"Il Bibliofilo," 100.
Incunable Wanted, 55.
Index Society, Prof. Egger on, 55.
Index to Legal Period. Lit., proposed, 54.
International Booksellers' Exhibition, 32.
International Health Exhibition Library, 25, 74, 131, 147; Catalogue, 134.
Isle of Man, Movement to establish a Library, 23.

Jacob, Bibliophile, Death of, 200.
Jersey City, Messrs. Lorillards' Library, 100.
Jackson's Guide to Literature of Botany, Blunders in, 55, 80.
Japanese Bibliography, 56.
Jevons, Bibliography of Currency and Finance, 103.
Jones, William, and the Birkenhead Public Library, 197.
Joynt, W. Lane, and Free Pub. Lib., 180.

Kentucky, State Librarianship, contest for, 27.
Kirkman, Rev. T. P., offers "Philosophy without Assumptions" to libraries, 80, 104.

Lacroix, P., Death of, 200.
"Laker, Cecil," 32.
Lambeth Palace Library, 50.
Lancaster, A., Disfiguring of books in the post, 56.
Laws of Copyright, Scrutton's, 194.
Leeds, Public Library, Electric Light at, 24; Annual Report, 30; Newspaper Complaints of, 50; Opening of, 74; Removal of, 118; Art Exhibition, 197.
Leek, Nicholson Institute at, 131; W. Hall appointed librarian, 118; Opening of, 197.
Leges Bibliothecae Finspongensis, 18.
Leicester Free Library, Annual Report, 119,
Leigh Lit. Soc., Formation of Ref. Lib. by, 175.
Leipzig, Buchhändler-Börsenverein, Library of, 100.
"Le Livre," (May) 75; (Jul.) 133.
Lenox Library, 27.
Leypoldt, F., Death of, 52.
Librarianship, Exam. at Paris, 26, 132.
Librarianship in the Seventeenth Century, 1.
Libraries, Free Public, Return of, 156.
Libraries in France, 32; in the Navy, 75; and Royalty, 180.
Library Assistants, Proposed Examination of, 183.
Library Association at Dublin, The, 161.
Library Chronicle, Delivery of, 80.

"Library Manual," reviewed, 46.
Library Forms and Accounts, 136.
"Library Journal," 28; (Mar.) 75; (April) 100; (Jun.) 118; (Jul.) 157; (Sept.) 176; (Oct., Nov.) 200.
Library Reports and Post-card Notices, 80, 136.
Libreria Pandolfini, Catalogo della, 54.
Lidderdale, T. H., Death of, 155.
Lima, Biblioteca Nacional, 52.
Lincoln (Mass.), Gift of Public Library, 176.
Literature, The Classification of, 181.
Liverpool, Lecture by P. Cowell, 24; Opening of Evening Reading Rooms, 24; Free Pub. Lib. Museum and Art Gallery, Annual Report, 30.
Liverpool Library and Liverpool Lyceum, 135.
Liverpool Library, Annual Meeting, 98; Annual Supp. Catal. 119.
London, Corporation Library, Catalogue of, 24; Inner Temple Library, 24; R. Med. and Chir. Society, B. R. Wheatley Memorial Fund, 24; J. B. Bailey apptd. librarian, 25; Museum of Practical Geology, Disruption of Library, 74; Bar Library, 99; Bank of England Library, Annual Report, 101; Braby and Co.'s Library, Annual Report 101; British Museum, *see* British Museum; Corporation of, and Schools and Libraries, 135.
London Government Bill and Libraries, 51.
London Institution, Annual Report, 158.
London Library, Annual Meeting, 99; Annual Report, 158.
Long, Captain, on Libr. in the Navy, 75.
Longman, C. J., on Mrs. Bray, 160.
Love, translator of Bonaventure's Life of Christ, 159.
Low's English Catalogue of Books for 1883, 54.
Low, Index to English Catalogue of Books, 159.
Löwe, Dr. G., Death of, 26, 75.
Luther Libraries, foundation of, in Germany, 27.

Macclesfield Free Library, 77.
Macfie, R. A., offers book on "Copyright and Patents" to libraries, 56.
Madan, Bibliography of Dr. Sacheverell, 78.
Madrid, purchase of Duke of Osuna's Library, 26.
Manchester, Annual Report, 30; Free Libraries, 50; Deansgate Library, Catalogue, 53; Ancoats Branch, Catalogue Boys' Reading Room, 101; Chetham Library, 156, 176; Bibliography, 178; Cross Street Chapel, Bibliography of, 178.
Mansi, Conciliorum Collectio, new edition, 79.
Mason, T. Death of, 175.
May, Bibliography of Electricity and Magnetism, 31.
Meetings, Annual, 161; Monthly, 20, 48, 72, 96, 117, 130, 194.
Melbourne, Public Library, Re-classifying of, 52.
Michigan, University Library, Opening of, 27.
Middlesbrough, Free Library, Annual Report, 101.
Minzloff, K. R., Death of, 26.
Mr. Melvil Dewey's Work at Columbia College, 186.
Mrs. Bray and her Writings, 126.
Modern Proteus, 80.
Monthly Meetings, January, 20; February, 20; March, 20; April, 48; May, 72; June, 96; July, 117; August, 130; November, 194; December, 194.
Montreal, Proposed Public Library, 176.
Müller, Wissenschaftliche Vereine Deutschlands, 79.
Mullins, J. D. *Opening of the Newcastle Public Libraries*, 138.
Mullins, J. D. *Our Newsrooms*, 37.
Musical Bibliography, 80.

Narducci, Enrico, un Catalogo Generale della Biblioteche d'Italia, 157.
Navy, Libraries in the, 75.
Nederlandsche Bibliographie, Tiele, 203.
New Building at the British Museum, 16.
Newark, Stock Lib., Proposed new Catalogue, 50, 74.
Newcastle, Public Free Library, Annual Report, 53; Opening of, 131; Fire at, 198.
Newcastle-under-Lyme, Libraries Acts adopted, 156.
New Public Libraries' Bill, 94.
New Public Library at Leeds, 66.
New York, Astor Library, Gifts to, 132.
New York, Lenox Library, 27.
Nicolas Trübner, 42: comp. 136.
Nodier, Charles, 33.
Norwich, Free Library, Annual Report, 53; Sunday Opening refused, 156.
Notes and Queries, 32, 55, 80, 160, 179, 204.
Notices, Official, 20, 48, 72, 96, 117, 130, 154, 174, 194.
Nottingham, Free Library: Electric Light at, 51; Proposed New Branch, 51; Ref. Dep. Science Catal. 76; Proposed Branch Libraries, 118; Annual Report, 119.

Ode for the Opening of the Toronto Free Public Library, 70.
Official Notices, 20, 48, 72, 96, 117, 130, 154, 174, 194.
Oldcastle, John, 32.
Opening of the Newcastle Public Libraries, 137.
Osuna, Duke of, Purchase of his Library, 26.
Our Newsrooms, 37.
Oxford, Bodleian Library, 74; Radcliffe Library, 74.

Pacy, F. Appointed Librarian at Richmond, 198.
Padua, Death of A. M. Fabris, 26.
Pandolfini, Libreria, Cat., 54.
Paris, Bibl. Nationale, 26, 176; Bibliothèque Ste. Geneviève, 26; Catal. des Dissertations, 26; Librarianship, Examination, 26, 132; Bibliothèque Forney, 51, 157; Municipal Libraries, 51; Ministère des Postes, Library at, 75; Stock-taking at, 75; Service of Departmental Archives, 132; Société Franklin, 132; Bibliothèques Populaires, 157; Bibliothèques Scolaires, 176.
Parr, G., New Indicator, 99.
Peacock *v.* Sinclair, Report of, 135.
Penrith, Free Public Library and Museum, Lending Library Catalogue, 76; Annual Report, 101.
Peterborough, Library Acts Rejected at, 132.
Pfoundes, C., Japanese bibliography, 56.
Pharmaceutical Society, Library, Annual Report, 77.
Philadelphia, Library History of, 28; Electrical Exhibition Library, 100; Mercantile Library Company, Annual Report, 102; Bulletin of, 103.
Photography and Libraries, 179.
Picton, Sir J. *Opening of the Newcastle Public Libraries*, 137.
Piedagnel, Jules Janin, 32.
Pink, J., Post-card notices, 136.
Plymouth Public Library. Extension of, 57, 99; Annual Report, 102; Opening of New Premises, 198.
Poole, W. F. Remarks on Library Construction, 54; *Index to Periodical Literature, Proposed Supplement to*, 169.
Popular Libraries of Paris, 12.
Portsmouth, Public Library, enlargement of, 156.
Post-Card Notices, 80, 136.
Preston, Public Lib. and Museum, Annual Report, 76.
Printing, Bradshaw and Southward on, 103
Progress of the Free Public Lib. Movement in 1883, 8
Proposed Italian "Associazione Bibliofila," 114.
Poole's Index to Periodical Literature, Proposed Supplement to, 69.
Pseudonyms, Proposed Hand-books of, 178.
Ptolemy's Geography, Bibliography of, 135.
Public Libraries Amendment Act, Account of, 94; Passed, 156.
Publishers' Trade List Annual, 1883, 31; 1884, 202.
Purchase of Books, 120.

Q. P. Indexes, Collection of Essays, 31; Revue des Deux Mondes, 32; Index Annual, 78.

Rabbitt, C. D. S., on Subscription Libraries, 204, cp. 142.
Rating of Free Public Libraries, 167.
Reading, Free Pub. Lib. and Museum, Annual Report, 102
Reform Club, Library Catalogue, 53.
Researches for MSS. in the Levant, 57, 81, 105.
Richard de Bury and his Editors, 148, 170.
Richmond, Free Public Library, Annual Report, 119; Resignation of A. Cotgreave, 156; F. Pacy appointed Librarian, 198.
Richter, P. E., Dresden Verzeichniss, 27; Adressbuch, der Professoren, &c. 27.
Robertson, A. W., Disfiguring of Books in the Post, 56; Appointed Librarian of Aberdeen Public Library, 175.
Rochdale, Free Lib. Annual Rep. 177; Opening of, 198.
Rome, Vatican Catalogues, 51.
Rotherham, Free Lib. Annual Report, 76; Catal. 76.
Roy, E. A., Death of, 155.
Royal Visit to Newcastle, 137.
Runcorn, Free Public Library, Annual Report, 177.
Russia, Censorship of Libraries, 52, 157; Private Libraries of, 75; Workmen's Libraries in, 157.

St. Helens, Paper on Free Libraries, by A. Lancaster, 25; Proposed New Building, 51.
St. Petersburg, Death of K. R. Minzloff, 26; Censorship of Libraries, 52.
Salford, Museum and Library, Annual Report, 76.
San Francisco, Mercantile Lib. Assoc., Annual Rep. 76.
Scrutton's Laws of Copyright, 194.
Seine, Prison Libraries, 133.
Sheffield, Free Public Libraries and Museum, Annual Report, 77.
Shorthand, Circular of (U.S.) Bureau of Education, 159.
Slater, J. H., "Library Manual," reviewed, 46.
Smith, J. L. Clifford, *International Health Exhibition Library*, 147.
Smith, L. P., Paper on Library History of Philadelphia, 28
Smith, Sam., on Club and Institute Libraries, 156.
Sommervogel, Dictionnaire des ouvrages anonymes, etc., de la Compagnie de Jésus, 135.
Southport, Atkinson Free Library, Annual Report, 134
Southward, J., on Printing, 103.
Stafford, Free Public Library, Annual Report, 158.
Stationery Office, Sale of Books, &c., 99.
Stockholm, Royal Library, Annual Report, 75.
Strassburg, University Library, progress of, 52.
Stuttgart, Royal Private Library, 157.
Subscription Libraries, 204, cp. 142.
Sutton, C. W. *American Librarians in Congress*, 39; Manchester Bibliography for 1883, 178.
Swansea, Library, Science and Art Schools, New Building, 25; Plans for, 74; Annual Report, 77; Stone-laying of New Building, 198.

Tarves, Library Acts Adopted, 99.
Tedder, H. R. *Progress of the Free Public Library Movement in* 1883, 8; *Proposed Italian "Associazione Bibliofila,"* 114; *Mr. Melvil Dewey's Work at Columbia College*, 186; Purchase of Books, 120.
Thomas, E. C. *Popular Libraries of Paris*, 12; *The New Building at the British Museum*, 16; *Years Work at the British Museum*, 124; *Opening of the Newcastle Public Libraries*, 139; *Richard de Bury and his Editors*, 148, 170; *The Library Association at Dublin*, 161; *The Classification of Literature*, 181.
Tiele, P. A., Nederlandsche Bibliographie, van Land-en Volkenkunde, 203.
Tonks, E., Index to Curtis's Botanical Magazine, 31.
Toronto, Public Library, opening of, 52, 75.
Tours, Calligraphic School of, 160.
Trades Union Congress, Resolution in favour of Library Acts, 156; Against Sunday Opening, 156.
Trübner, Nicolas: In Memoriam, 42; Obit. Notices of, 136.
Twickenham, Free Public Library, Annual Report, 158.
Tynemouth, Free Public Library, Annual Report, 134.

Vancouver's Voyage of Discovery, Query, 160.
Vatican, Catalogues of Greek and Latin MSS. 51.

Waite, J. K., The Rating of Free Public Libraries, 167.
Wallace, E., Death of, 176.
Wandsworth, Free Library, 156; A. Cotgreave appointed Librarian, 156.
Watson, D., Library forms and accounts, 136.
Washington, Library of Congress, New Building, 28, 52, 133; Movement for Free Public Library, 28.
Whitney, Modern Proteus, 135.
Wigan Free Library, Gift of MS. Bible, 156.
Winsor, J. Address by, 27; Letter from, on proposed visit to America, 200.
Wright, W. H. K., "Western Antiquary," 25.
Worcester, Museum Opened on Sunday, 75; Closed again, 99.

Year-book of Scientific Societies, 159.
Year's Work at the British Museum, A, 124.

Zürich, Zwingli Exhibition at, 26.
Zwingli Exhibition at Zürich, 26.

The Library Chronicle.

LIBRARIANSHIP IN THE SEVENTEENTH CENTURY.[1]

By Richard Garnett, LL.D.

THE natural reaction against over-statements respecting the darkness of the dark ages has led to the counter-statement that they were not dark at all. We librarians know better. We know that they must have been in darkness, inasmuch as our body did not exist to enlighten them. There can have been no librarians when there were no libraries; and the lists of collections of manuscripts preserved to our times sufficiently prove that no set of men professionally interested in the custody of stores so diminutive can have been required. The function of librarian must have been one of the numerous offices discharged cumulatively by a single monk, upon whom it may sometimes have been imposed by way of penance. It was otherwise in classical antiquity. To say nothing of the Alexandrian Library, and its connection with men as distinguished as Callimachus and Apollonius, so late as near the close of the third century of our era the decree of the Emperor Tacitus that the historical works of his illustrious namesake should be transcribed and placed in the public libraries throughout the empire, indicates the existence of numerous institutions of this description, under responsible officers, servants of the State or the municipality.

Almost all personal trace, however, of the famous librarians of antiquity has disappeared; but the interest attaching to the slow emergence of their modern representatives from the flood of ignorance and barbarism rivals that which the history of their prototypes would excite, could this be recovered. It would be interesting to know when and where in Renaissance or post Renaissance times the accumulation of books first became so considerable as to demand the whole time of the officer entrusted with their custody, and thus to give birth to librarianship as a distinct profession. Into this inquiry I do not propose to enter. I wish merely, on the present occasion, to direct your attention to the evidence borne about the middle of the seventeenth century to the development at that period attained by librarianship, and the conception of its duties and possibilities entertained by John Dury, a man in advance of his times.

[1] Read at the March Monthly Meeting of the Library Association.

Dury was by birth a Scotchman, and by profession a divine. He had signalised his appreciation of libraries at an early age by repairing to Oxford with the object of studying in the Bodleian. He is entitled to figure on the roll of librarians himself, having been appointed deputy-keeper of the Royal Library after the execution of Charles I., which charge may very probably have suggested to him those thoughts on the duties of librarians and the standard of librarianship of which I am to give you an account. The main object of his life, however, was the even more important but certainly less hopeful undertaking of allaying the acrimony of religious zealots. In pursuance of this mission we find him almost more abroad than at home; ever labouring to appease the dissensions of Protestants, now negociating with Gustavus Adolphus, now with the Synod of Transylvania; now at Utrecht, now at Brandenburg, now at Metz, where he submitted to the loss of his "great, square, white beard," as a peace offering to the prejudices of French Protestantism. He eventually, long after the Restoration, died in Hesse, where he was entertained and protected by the Regent. It is to be feared that nothing came of his well-meant endeavours but the witness of a good conscience and the blessing that rests upon peacemakers. It may, perhaps, have been inferred that he was not in all respects the most practical of men, and this, indeed, appears from his works on education rather than from his suggestions on libraries. But his Utopianism was less owing to infirmity of judgment than to the habitual elevation of his moral and intellectual standard. He thought better of his fellow-men than they deserved, and was himself a man of eminent desert. If his own writings did not survive to speak for him it would be sufficient to record that he was the intimate friend of Samuel Hartlib, the foreign guest to whom England is so greatly indebted as philanthropist and practical agriculturist, and to whom several of his own treatises are inscribed.

The tract in which Dury published his ideas respecting the duties of a librarian is entitled: "The Reformed Library-Keeper; with a Supplement to the Reformed School, as subordinate to Colleges in Universities," London, 1650. It appears with a brief preface by Samuel Hartlib, to whom the "Library-Keeper" is addressed in the form of two letters, and who had already published Dury's "Reformed School," to which another portion of the tiny pamphlet is a supplement.

From the general drift of Dury's observations, it would appear that in his view, which was very probably correct, librarianship had in his day reached such a degree of development as to have become an independent profession, but not such a degree as to be a very useful one. It was necessary to have librarians, but librarians, as such, had not enough to do to constitute them very important or valuable members of the community. The remedy for this state of things was destined to come slowly, partly by an increase of books, and even more by an increase of readers. We know that the profession at present finds ample employment for well nigh all the energies of the most active of its members. This was far from the case in Dury's day, and being unable so to accelerate the march of intellect as to find sufficing occupation for the librarian, and at the same time hating to see a functionary potentially so important comparatively useless, he not unnaturally sought to provide him with other avocations in which the more technical work of librarianship would have been merged. In so doing he anticipated the modern idea, especially rife in America, that the librarian should be not only a custodian and distributor of books, but a missionary of culture. Hence came the further idea that more being expected of the librarian more should be

given him, and the office thus made worthy of the acceptance of men of parts and learning. Thus we find Dury, from a comparative outsider's point of view, coming to magnify the librarian's office and demand generous treatment for its incumbent, very much in the tone now held by the organs and representatives of the profession itself. It must be borne in mind that he speaks not so much in the interest of librarians as of the public; and pleads for them less in their capacity as custodians of books than with reference to the educational functions which he wishes to see superadded to their ordinary duties.

It will now be well to let him speak for himself.

"The library-keeper's place and office in most countries are looked upon as places of profit and gain."

Rather a startling statement to us, who have been accustomed to look upon librarianship as under the special influence of the planet Saturn, which is said to preside over all occupations in which money is obtained with very great difficulty. It would seem, however, that mean as the prizes of librarianship might be, they were yet scrambled for.

"And so," he continues, "accordingly sought after and valued in that regard; and not in regard of the service which is to be done by them unto the Commonwealth of Israel. For the most part men look after the maintenance and livelihood settled upon their places more than upon the end and usefulness of their employments. They seek themselves and not the public therein, and so they subordinate all the advantages of their places to purchase mainly two things thereby, viz., an easy subsistence and some credit in comparison of others, nor is the last much regarded if the first may be had. To speak in particular of library-keepers in most universities that I know, nay, indeed, in all, their places are but mercenary, and their employment of little or no use further than to look to the books committed to their custody, that they may not be lost or embezzled by those that use them, and this is all."

Dury has, no doubt, here put his finger upon the main cause of the low condition of the librarianship of his day. The general conception of the librarian's functions was far too narrow. He was allowed no share in the government of his own library. He had not necessarily anything to do with the selection of new books, nor was it expected of him that he should advise and direct the studies of those resorting to the collections committed to his care. In fact he was not usually qualified for such activity, or even for the minor task of making these collections serviceable by means of catalogues and indexes. The development of literature had advanced so far as to necessitate the library custodian, but had not yet produced the library administrator—the Denis and Audiffredi of the succeeding century. Dury saw this, and also saw that the ideal librarian he had conceived in his own mind would need better pay, that he might do better work. One exception to his apparently sweeping statements must be noted. Bodley's librarians in the seventeenth century were undoubtedly men of high literary distinction. Yet even here the arrangements for the librarian's remuneration were unsatisfactory, and wrong in principle.

"I have been informed," says Dury, "that in Oxford the settled maintenance of the library-keeper is not above fifty or sixty pound per annum, but that it is accidentally, *viis et modis*, sometimes worth a hundred pound. What the accidents are, and the ways and means by which they come, I have not been curious to search after."

So we are not to know by what shifts Mr. Nicholson's seventeenth century predecessor

mended his salary. "Hay and oats," says Dean Swift, "in the hands of a skilful groom will make excellent wine, as well as ale, but *this* I only *hint*."

Dury now proceeds to develope his ideas in a fine and wise passage:—

"I have thought that if the proper employments of library-keepers were taken into consideration as they are, or may be made useful to the advancement of learning; and were ordered and maintained proportionately to the ends, which ought to be intended thereby; they would be of exceeding great use to all sorts of scholars, and have an universal influence upon all the parts of learning, to produce and propagate the same into perfection. For if library-keepers did understand themselves in the nature of their work, and would make themselves, as they ought to be, useful in their places in a public way; they ought to become agents for the advancement of universal learning; and to this effect I could wish that their places might not be made, as everywhere they are, mercenary, but rather honorary; and that with the competent allowance of two hundred pounds a year [equivalent to about six hundred now-a-days]; some employments should be put upon them further than a bare keeping of the books. It is true that a fair library is not only an ornament and credit to the place where it is, but an useful commodity by itself to the public; yet in effect it is no more than a dead body as now it is constituted, in comparison of what it might be, if it were animated with a public spirit to keep and use it, and ordered as it might be for public service. For if such an allowance were settled upon the employment as might maintain a man of parts and generous thoughts, then a condition might be annexed to the bestowing of the place; that none should be called thereunto but such as had approved themselves zealous and profitable in some public ways of learning to advance the same, or that should be bound to certain tasks to be prosecuted towards that end, whereof a list might be made, and the way to try their abilities in prosecuting the same should be described, lest in after times, unprofitable men creep into the place to frustrate the public of the benefit intended by the donors towards posterity. The proper charge, then, of the honorary library-keeper in an university should be thought upon, and the end of that employment, in my conception, is to keep the public stock of learning, which is in books and manuscripts, to increase it, and to propose it to others in the way which may be most useful unto all; his work, then, is to be a factor and trader for helps to learning, and a treasurer to keep them, and a dispensor to apply them to use, or to see them well-used, or at least not abused."

This established, Dury proceeds to point out how the library should be made useful. His main idea is that a library should be a kind of factory, and it is astonishing how often he contrives to introduce the word "trade" into his proposals. Underlying this peculiar phraseology is the thought that so long as the library only exists for the advantage of those who may choose to resort to it, it is like a talent buried in a napkin; that to be really useful it must go to the public, and that the librarian must place himself in active communication with men of learning. It was hardly conceived in Dury's day that any but scholars could have occasion for libraries, but translating his proposals into the language of our time, it will appear that they contemplate such an ideal of librarianship as is professed in America, and is realised with no small success in many of our leading free libraries. The first condition is a good catalogue:—

"That is," says Dury, "all the books and manuscripts, according to the titles whereunto they belong, are to be ranked in an order most easy and obvious to be

found, which I think is that of sciences and languages, when first all the books are divided into their *subjectam materiam* whereof they treat, and then every kind of matter subdivided into their several languages."

Evidently Dury was little troubled with the questions which have so exercised librarians since his time. "The subject-matter of which a book treats" is not always easy to ascertain. It might have puzzled Dury himself to decide whether his own tract should be catalogued along with books on libraries, or with the "Reformed School" to which it is professedly an appendix, and to which half its contents have a direct relation. The suggestion that books should be catalogued by languages was propounded before the British Museum Commission of 1849, and promptly dismissed as the fancy of an amateur. It would be curious to see Pope's Homer in one catalogue, Voss's in another, and the original in a third.

Dury next judiciously adds that room must be left in the library for the increase of books, an indispensable condition not always easy of fulfilment; and that "in the printed catalogue a reference is to be made to the place where the books are to found in their shelves or repositories." That is, the catalogue must have press-marks; in which suggestion Dury was two centuries ahead of many of the most important foreign libraries. It will be observed that he takes it for granted that the catalogue shall be printed, and in this he was ahead of almost all the libraries of his time, and until lately of the British Museum. In fact he could not be otherwise, for a printed catalogue is an essential condition of his dominant idea that the librarian should be a "factor" to "trade" with learned men and corporations for mutual profit. Hence he prescribes "a catalogue of additionals, which every year within the universities is to be published in writing within the library itself, and every three years to be put in print and made common to those that are abroad."

The full plan of communication is unfolded in the following passage :—

"When the stock is thus known and fitted to be exposed to the view of the learned world, then the way of trading with it, both at home and abroad, is to be laid to heart both for the increase of the stock and for the improvement of it to use. For the increase of the stock both at home and abroad, correspondence should be held with those that are eminent in every science to trade with them for their profit, that what they want and we have, they may receive upon condition, that what they have and we want, they should impart in that faculty wherein their eminence doth lie. As for such as are at home eminent in any kind, because they may come by native right to have use of the library treasure, they are to be traded withall in another way, viz., that the things which are gained from abroad, which as yet are not made common and put to public use, should be promised and imparted to them for the increase of their private stock of knowledge, to the end that what they have peculiar, may also be given in for a requital, so that the particularities of gifts at home and abroad are to meet as in a centre in the hand of the library-keeper, and he is to trade with the one by the other, to cause them to multiply the public stock, whereof he is a treasurer and factor.

"Thus he should trade with those that are at home and abroad out of the university, and with those that are within the university, he should have acquaintance to know all that are of any parts, and how their view of learning doth lie, to supply helps unto them in their faculties from without and from within the nation, to put them upon the keeping of correspondence with men of their own strain, for the beating out

of matters not yet elaborated in sciences ; so that they may be as his assistants and subordinate factors in his trade and in their own for gaining of knowledge."

Further instructions follow respecting the control to be exercised over the librarian, who is to give an account of his stewardship once a year to the doctors of the university, who are themselves, each in his own faculty, to suggest additional books proper to be added to the library. Dury seems to have no doubt that funds will always be forthcoming, as well as for the librarian's "extraordinary expenses in correspondencies and transcriptions for the public good." It seems to be expected that he will frequently make advances out of his own pocket. Dury glides lightly over these ticklish financial details, which, however, remind him of the existence of a law of copyright, and the probable accumulation of accessions undesirable from the point of view of mere scholarship. His observations on this point are full of liberality and good sense :—

"I understand that all the book-printers or stationers of the Commonwealth are bound of every book which is printed, to send a copy into the University Library ; and it is impossible for one man to read all the books in all faculties, to judge of them what worth there is in them ; nor hath every one ability to judge of all kind of sciences what every author doth handle, and how sufficiently ; therefore I would have at this time of giving accounts, the library-keeper also bound to produce the catalogue of all the books sent unto the University's Library by the stationers that printed them ; to the end that every one of the doctors in their own faculties should declare whether or no they should be added, and where they should be placed in the catalogue of additionals. For I do not think that all books and treatises, which in this age are printed in all kinds, should be inserted into the catalogue, and added to the stock of the library ; discretion must be used and confusion avoided, and a course taken to distinguish that which is profitable from that which is useless ; and according to the verdict of that society, the usefulness of books for the public is to be determined. Yet because there is seldom any books wherein there is not something useful, and books freely given are not to cast away, but may be kept, therefore I would have a peculiar place appointed for such books as shall be laid aside to keep them in, and a catalogue of their titles made alphabetically in reference to the author's name, with a note of distinction to shew the science to which they are to be referred." It seems, then, that if Dury could have advised Bodley, and Bodley had listened to him, the Bodleian would have been rich in early Shakespeares, and might have preserved many publications now entirely lost.

Dury's second letter on the subject merely repeats the ideas of the first with less practical suggestion and in a more declamatory style. It contains a striking passage on the ruin of the library of Heidelberg, a terrible warning to librarians. It had books, it had manuscripts, but it had no catalogue, and its candlestick was taken away.

"What a great stir hath been heretofore, about the eminency of the library of Heidelberg, but what use was made of it ? It was engrossed into the hands of a few, till it became a prey unto the enemies of the truth. If the library-keeper had been a man that would have traded with it for the increase of true learning, it might have been preserved unto this day in all the rareties thereof, not so much by the shuttings up of the multitude of books, and the rareness thereof for antiquity, as by the understandings of men and their proficiency to improve and dilate knowledge upon

the grounds which he might have suggested unto others of parts, and so the library rareties would not only have been preserved in the spirits of men, but have fructified abundantly therein unto this day, whereas they are now lost, because they were but a talent digged in the ground."

Well said! and it may be added that one good reason for printing the catalogue of a great library is that, in the event of its destruction, it may at least be known what it contained. The greatest library in the world was within an ace of destruction under the Paris Commune: had it perished, the very memory of a large part of its contents would have been lost. Respecting Heidelberg, it should be remarked that the destruction was not quite so irreparable as would appear from Dury's passionate outburst. The books and manuscripts to a considerable extent went not to the Devil but to the Pope, though Dury probably could see little difference. But even the Pope did not ultimately retain them. No fewer than 890 MSS. were subsequently carried off by Napoleon, and being thus at Paris at the entry of the allies were reclaimed by the Bavarian Government, and restored to the University of Heidelberg, with the sanction of the Pope, at the special instance of the King of Prussia.[1]

Appended to the tract is a short Latin account, also by Dury, of the Duke of Brunswick's library at Wolfenbuttel, famous on many grounds, and especially for having had Lessing as its librarian. It appears that on May 21, 1649, it was estimated to contain 60,000 treatises by 37,000 authors, bound in 20,000 volumes, all collected since 1604. It must therefore have been administered with an energy corresponding to the demands of Dury, who concludes his enthusiastic account with an aspiration which every librarian will echo on behalf of the institution with which he is himself connected:

Faxit Deus, ut Thesaurus hic rerum divinarum aeternarum sit et ipse aeternus, neque prius quam mundi machina, laboret aut intercidat.

It will have been observed that Dury's suggestions have reference solely to university libraries. The conception of a really popular library did not then exist, and it may be doubted whether in any case even one so much in advance of his time could have reconciled himself to the idea of a collection where every description of literature, embodying every variety of opinion, should be indiscriminately accessible to every condition of men. But this very limitation of his views should render his admonition, and his lofty standard of the librarian's duty, more interesting and significant to the librarians of the nineteenth century. For if the advising function was rightly deemed so important in him who had to consult with university professors, men probably of more learning than himself, much more is its judicious exercise required in him who has to aid the researches and direct the studies of the comparatively ignorant. "The Reformed Library Keeper," therefore, has a message for our age as well as its own; and we need not regret the half hour we have spent with good old John Dury, the first who discovered that a librarian had a soul to be saved.

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[1] See Wilken, Geschichte der Bildung, Beraubung, und Vernichtung der alten Heidelbergischen Büchersammlungen: Heidelberg, 1817.

THE PROGRESS OF THE FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY MOVEMENT IN 1883.[1]

By Henry R. Tedder.

Following the precedent set last year by the Report of the Metropolitan Free Libraries Association, and by the paper of Mr. Credland, I have drawn up this brief account of the progress of the free library movement during the past twelve months. To give a view of the actual state of the rate-supported libraries throughout the country is beyond my purpose, which is chiefly to show what new libraries under the Public Libraries Acts have been established or opened in 1882, and to furnish some idea of what is being done in different parts of the United Kingdom to bring about the adoption of the Acts in places still without libraries. A few other matters supplementary to this information is added to complete the library-history of the year.

Glancing at the library-history of 1882, we find that there is cause for considerable satisfaction when we compare that year with the one just finished. In 1882, the Acts were adopted at Belfast, Fleetwood, Portsmouth, Shrewsbury and Tunbridge, and rejected at Ayr, Hastings, Hull, Lynn, Merthyr Tydvil and Putney. In 1883, the Acts were adopted at Cheltenham, Darlington, Ealing, Tipton, Wandsworth and Wimbledon, and rejected at Battersea, Brentford, Cambuslang, Colchester, Taunton and Wheatley. The successes are, therefore, as six in 1883 to five in 1882, the failures remaining at six in both years. While there is no such brilliant episode to record as at Belfast in 1882, the adherence of two more of the suburbs of London to the principle of rate-supported libraries is hopeful for the library-future of the metropolis; and a failure to introduce the Acts on two occasions, the victory at Wimbledon is a subject for special congratulation.

It must not be supposed that all troubles are at an end when the ratepayers have once been brought to adopt the Acts. The still greater difficulties in connexion with the establishment and organization of the library then commence, and its subsequent conduct remains to prove whether the decision of the ratepayers was a wise one or not. It is, therefore, fitting to commence this inquiry with a review of any reports which may have been issued by committees rendering a first annual account of their stewardship. On the present occasion I have to mention those of Barrow, Halifax, Runcorn, Stafford, Twickenham and Worcester. The Free Public Library at Barrow-in-Furness was opened on Sept. 18, 1882, and the report states that "from its opening the institution has proved a great success;" the temporary premises are already too small. The Acts were adopted at Halifax on March 23, 1881; the news-room was opened almost exactly twelve months after (March 20, 1882), and the library (19,598 vols.) at the beginning of 1883. Runcorn adopted the Acts in December, 1881, and a library was opened in the Improvement Commissioners Board Rooms on July 6, 1882, by Sir James Picton. Although the stock of books was only 1429 volumes, the issues during the year were 16,259. The Borough of Stafford opened its Free Public Library July 24, 1882, it possessed 4,724 volumes, and recorded 29,668 issues for eleven months. The Acts were adopted at Twickenham, Feb. 11,

[1] Read at the January Monthly Meeting of the Library Association.

1882. Three rooms in the Town Hall were put aside for the use of the library, and a news-room opened on Oct. 2; from that date to the close of the year (147 days) it was visited by 31,567 persons. The library contained over 3,000 volumes. At Worcester the Acts were adopted on April 23, 1879, and the Public Library and Hastings Museum was opened by Mr. Lowell on March 16, 1881. The library contained 16,217 volumes, with a promising commencement of a Worcestershire collection. In the two years, 164,659 volumes were issued to readers, 300,000 visits were paid to the news-room, and 100,000 to the museum.

The Free Public Libraries which have been opened during the year are Dunfermline, Inverness, Middlesbrough, Northampton, Oldham, Portsmouth, Reading and Twickenham. The library presented to his native place by Mr. Andrew Carnegie, a naturalized American, was opened at Dunfermline (which adopted the Acts in 1880) by the Earl of Rosebery on August 29. The erection and furnishing of the building, which already contains 11,926 volumes, cost about £8,000. Only three ratepayers of Inverness voted against the Acts when they were adopted at that place on July 4, 1877. The library now contains over 5,400 volumes. A new building for the library, a museum and school of art, was formally opened on Saturday, June 16, 1883. The foundation-stone of the new public buildings at Middlesborough, which are to cost £100,000, and to afford accommodation for a library was laid on October 24 by the Mayor. At Northampton a wing of the old prison has been handed over for the housing of the library, reading-room and museum of the town. On the occasion of the opening of the new premises on Oct. 8 by the Mayor, the Chairman of the Library Committee said that the library, as was not unusual in such institutions, suffered from a great influx of valueless donations. A library, art gallery and museum was opened at Oldham on August 1. The Corporation of Portsmouth adopted the Acts about a year ago, and the reading-room has already been in working order for some months. It is hoped that the issue of books from the library (now extending to about 3,000 volumes) may begin at the new year. A conversazione was given by the Mayor of Reading on Friday, February 9, to celebrate the opening of the handsome and spacious Free Library, Reading Rooms and Museum, which form part of the new municipal buildings recently erected at a cost of over £60,000. The library commences with about 10,000 volumes. The Twickenham Free Public Library (3,000 vols.) was opened without ceremony on February 24, the news-room having been in use for some months.

All persons who have taken a part, however small, in furthering the free library movement, know from experience how difficult it is to bring about a vigorous public feeling on the subject. It is, therefore, extremely important to know in what places agitation is going on, and our readers should not fail to register in the LIBRARY CHRONICLE all such efforts that may fall under their notice. Special mention may be made in this respect of the following places :—Aberdeen, Croydon, Dublin, Northwick, Tarves and Taunton. Aberdeen, with its 100,000 inhabitants, is still without its free library, but energetic efforts are now being made to remedy the want. An old endowment of something like £6,000 a year is carrying on a technical school at Robert Gordon's College, and the directors of the Mechanics' Institution have offered property and funds applicable for library purposes to be made over to the Town Council contingently upon the adoption of the Public Libraries Acts, and prior to the amalgamation of the Mechanics' Institution with Robert Gordon's College. Several

public meetings have been held on the question. At a meeting held at Croydon on February 9 it was decided to purchase by public subscription the ancient palace of the Archbishops, and devote it to be used as a public library and museum in memory of the late Archbishop Tait. On March 5 a resolution was adopted by the Town Council of Dublin whereby a committee was appointed to report generally upon the advisability of adopting the Public Libraries Acts for the city. The committee submitted their report in October, and stated that the existing facilities for reading in Dublin made it unnecessary to establish reference and central libraries, and that they should recommend that two buildings (in Capel Street and Thomas Street) be maintained as reading-rooms and libraries open throughout the day and evening. The cost was estimated at £1,000 per annum. Resolutions in favour of the Acts were adopted at a meeting at Northwick on Oct. 15. A committee was appointed, and a subscription list opened. A sum of £500 has already been received. There is a free library movement still going on at Tarves (Aberdeenshire), and a meeting in favour of the Acts was held at Taunton on Jan. 10, when a committee was appointed, who have since issued an address. Four district meetings have already been held, and Mr. W. H. K. Wright delivered a lecture on Feb. 7.

We now come to those places which have signalized themselves by adopting the Acts during the year. These are Cheltenham, Darlington, Ealing, Tipton, Wandsworth and Wimbledon. A stormy public meeting was held at Cheltenham on July 16, and a friendly resolution was carried. A poll was demanded on behalf of the minority, which finally decided two days afterwards in favour of the Acts. At a meeting of the Town Council of Darlington on March 5 a letter was read from the trustees of the late Mr. Ed. Pease, offering, subject to the adoption of the Acts, to erect a building which, with the site, was estimated at £5,000. They were also prepared to spend a further sum in suitable furniture. It having been subsequently decided to take the opinion of the ratepayers by means of voting-papers, they resolved by 3,420 votes to 957 in favour of the proposition. The Pease trustees have also offered £100 towards a subscription for books. The ratepayers of Ealing, at a meeting held on Jan. 23, under the presidency of the Chairman of the Local Board, decided by an overwhelming majority to adopt the Acts. Fortunately no poll was demanded, and the resolution of the meeting came into effect at once. Our member, Mr. King, of Richmond, is to be credited for much of this success. No time was lost in carrying out the wishes of the meeting, and a reading-room was opened on Aug. 1 and a library on Dec. 10. A public meeting at Tipton adopted the Acts on March 24 without a single dissentient. The Acts were adopted at Wandsworth on July 8, being the first occasion of their proposal. In spite of defeat on two previous occasions, another and successful attempt was made at Wimbledon. The Acts were adopted on June 21 by a majority of 81 upon a poll.

So far we have had to do either with libraries opened or established. We have now to consider the reverse of the picture and to record the failures of the year. The Acts have been rejected at Battersea, Brentford, Cambuslang (Glasgow), Colchester, Taunton and Wheatley (Doncaster). An influential and energetic committee was formed at Battersea which distributed largely a pamphlet dealing with the arguments for and against free libraries. As the rateable value of the parish is £538,931, a halfpenny rate (after allowing for poundage, &c.) would produce something over £1,000 per annum, which would support a central and two branch libraries. A

number of meetings in support of the scheme were held, and on October 11 a motion having been proposed by Mr. John Cleave (the Accountant of the British Museum) at a vestry meeting, that it would be desirable to adopt the Acts, the motion was carried. A poll of the ratepayers was demanded, which, on being held, reversed however the previous decision. The success of the libraries at Richmond, Twickenham and Kingston led to a movement in favour of the Acts at Brentford. A committee was appointed, and they issued an address. A public meeting was held on Jan. 10, and the opinion of the ratepayers was taken by voting papers on Jan. 31 with an unfavourable result. The Acts were also rejected at Cambuslang on Nov. 16. A poll was taken at Colchester on Jan. 10, when the voting ran :—for, 1,758 ; against, 2,010 ; majority against, 252. At the April meeting of the Town Council of Taunton it was announced that the result of a poll was that only 484 votes had been given in favour of the Acts, and no less than 2,039 against their adoption. The committee of the Doncaster Public Library having found it necessary to issue an order restricting the advantages of borrowing books to residents or ratepayers of the borough, an attempt was made to arrange equitable terms by which the outlying townships might, by contributing their share to the support of the library, have an equal share in its privileges. In the case of one of these (Wheatley) a preliminary meeting was held on May 29, and a resolution in favour of such a proposition unanimously carried, but a subsequent meeting of ratepayers on June 28 rejected the scheme by 66 votes to 14.

Although this inquiry has not been directed to the consideration of public libraries founded by liberal individuals, the following incidents should not be overlooked. Mr. B. Samuelson has offered a Literary Institution, costing some thousands of pounds, to the town of Banbury ; a public hall, including a reading-room and library, presented by Mr. D. Gurteen, was opened at Haverhill on Aug. 28 ; and the new Free Library at Newark, given by Mr. William Gilstrap, was inaugurated with much ceremony on July 26. It is understood that the trustees of the Thomlinson Library at Newcastle are about to hand it over to the Free Public Library of that city. The books will be rebound and re-catalogued, and made accessible to the public upon conditions in harmony with the object of the trust.

Greater Britain supplies two interesting items. In consequence of the munificent bequest of the late Mr. Edward Costly to Auckland, New Zealand, the city has been able to take steps to erect the necessary building for a Free Public Library and Art Gallery. Sir George Grey, who had already presented a library to Auckland, delivered a lengthy address on the subject of founding a free library. The ratepayers of Toronto, on the 1st of January, decided by 5,332 votes to 2,486 to establish a public library. No time was lost to carry the decision into effect, a librarian (Mr. Bain) has been appointed, who, with the chairman of the committee (Mr. Hallam), has visited England in the course of the autumn with a view to acquiring books.

Besides the subjects discussed under the above headings the following matters must not be omitted, forming, as they do, part of the library-history of the year. The first prize in the competition for the Free Library and Art Gallery at Belfast has been awarded to Mr. Lynn of that city. A committee was formed to purchase the old school-house at Shrewsbury for a county Museum and Free Library. The sum required was £4,000, which has been nearly all subscribed. The first provincial school in affiliation with the new Royal College of Music has been founded at Watford, and it is proposed to use the Libraries Act for its support. The Hackney vestry has decided to accept the offer

made in 1882 by the Rev. R. Daniel Tyssen, the rector of South Hackney, to present his father's local collection as the basis of a free library, and a room in the Town Hall has been set apart for its reception. The Islington vestry has declined to accept an offer from its owner of Canonbury Tower as a free library and reading-room on the plea of the unsuitability of the building for the purpose. The excellent Free Library in Kennington Lane has been refused exemption from local taxation, on the ground that a charge for tickets takes away the free character of the institution. New reading-rooms have been opened at Cambridge, Cheetham (a suburb of Manchester) and Nottingham. The second stage of the Free Public Libraries Bill (which is the same as that of 1882) was moved in the House of Commons on Wednesday, March 14, by Mr. Hopwood, but the measure was talked out by the protantagonist of libraries, Mr. Warton, who is reported in *The Times* next day to have used the convincing argument of: "The rates for educational purposes were already too high. Those who had literary tastes could, in these days, gratify them at a very small expense, and there was no need to multiply free libraries."

Before I conclude, I must offer a word of acknowledgment to MONTHLY NOTES and its editor for most of the facts here abstracted. Although I have carefully searched various channels of information, the pages of no other periodical supply so complete a body of accurate facts relating to what is being done in the English library world as our official organ.

THE POPULAR LIBRARIES OF PARIS.[1]

BY ERNEST C. THOMAS.

THE attention of many of our readers has already been called in the pages of *The Monthly Notes of the Library Association*, some twelve months ago,[2] to the appointment of a General Commission to preside over the various libraries which were under the direction of the Municipal Government of Paris. A report upon these libraries has since been presented to the Commission by one of its members, the Chef du Bureau des Bibliothèques—M. Edmond Dardenne.

M. Dardenne has been good enough to furnish me with a copy of this report, accompanied by a letter in which he expresses his regret at having been unable to attend the Liverpool Meeting of the Library Association, and his hope that he may be present at our next annual gathering, a hope which I am sure will be shared by many librarians on this side of the Channel.

The libraries to which this interesting report refers includes :—

(1.) The Bibliothèque Administrative.

(2.) The Bibliothèques Municipales de Paris.

(3.) The Bibliothèques populaires libres de Paris.

(4.) The Bibliothèques populaires communales des arrondissements de Saint Denis et de Sceaux in the Département de la Seine.

(5.) The Bibliothèques populaires Libres of the same arrondissements.

[1] Read at the November Monthly Meeting of the Library Association. [2] *See* Vol. iii. p. 12.

I.

Of the Bibliothèque Administrative I do not propose to say much on the present occasion. I will only point out therefore that it must not be confounded with the Bibliothèque de la Ville de Paris. The latter consists of works relating to the History of Paris. It was founded in the xviiith century, and after its destruction in 1871 was re-established in the Hôtel Carnavalet. It includes upwards of 60,000 volumes and 40,000 engravings, &c., entirely relating to the history and topography of the capital. The Bibliothèque Administrative on the other hand was founded in 1872, and is intended to furnish the officials and employés of the administration of the city with the books and documents necessary in the study of the great variety of subjects connected with local government which they are called upon to consider. It consists of 40 sections, the Section Française containing 9,147 volumes, and the Section Étrangère, formed in 1878, and already containing over 12,000 volumes. These libraries have elaborate catalogues and are open to others besides officials on their obtaining a proper authorisation, though some complaint is made as to the want of adequate room for the requirements of the library.

II.

We come now to the Popular Libraries which form the proper subject of this paper. The account given by M. Dardenne of the working of these libraries has, I venture to think, a special interest for Englishmen, and particularly for Londoners.

The Bibliothèques Municipales de Paris have undergone a rapid development within the last few years. In 1878 there were only *nine* altogether, of which *five* were little used, and *four* practically unused. A special Bureau was then appointed by the Municipal Council to take charge of them, with the result that altogether 22 libraries have been opened, while the number of volumes lent rose

from ..... 29,339 in 1878
to ..... 57,840 in 1879
to ..... 147,567 in 1880
to ..... 242,738 in 1881
and to ..... 363,322 in 1882

These are the latest figures furnished by M. Dardenne in his report, but we have since received information which enables us to add that in the year ending September 30th, 1883, the number of volumes lent reached the number of 514,287—a very notable advance upon the figures of 1878 !

A sum of 3,050 francs is placed at the disposal of each library by the Municipal Council, which is thus appropriated; Books and Binding, Fr. 1,750; Librarian, 1,000; Attendant, 300. The amount of the sums thus voted by the Municipal Council in the year 1883 was 110,150 fr. For the year 1884 the sum of 171,700 fr. has been voted, the increase being intended to provide for the establishment of fifteen new libraries in Communal Schools, as well as for the growing requirements of some of the libraries already established.

The individual libraries are not, of course, as yet very considerable in point of numbers. The stock possessed by the twenty-two Bibliothèques Municipales in 1882 was 87,831 volumes, of which 20,411 had been added during that year. Information received since the publication of M. Dardenne's Report places the number in 1883

at 98,843 volumes. It appears, therefore, that, upon an average, each of these volumes must have been issued *five* times within the last year.

The libraries are open to the public gratuitously every evening from 8 to 10 o'clock, and are closed on five days only during the whole year. Books may be read in the library or are lent out for home use. The choice of the books is left to the committee of superintendence in each arrondissement, which is formed of members of the municipality, to whom are added inhabitants fitted by their attainments or interest in the work to be of service, and is presided over by the Maire.

Music is lent as well as books, the experiment having been first tried at the Mairie of the second arrondissement in 1879, and having proved so successful that nine arrondissements have followed suit, and the total number of musical issues from the ten libraries in 1882 was 9,085.

As to the quality of the reading the following figures showing the numbers of books read in the various departments of literature in the year 1881-2 are of interest:—

Science, Art and Education ...	38,775
History.....	29,628
Geography and Travels	35,758
Literature, Poetry and Drama...	48,301
Novels 200,255	
Foreign Languages	1,520
Music	9,085
	363,322

M. Dardenne expresses regret that novels should form so large a proportion of the books circulated, but is consoled by the reflection that it is natural for uneducated readers to begin by asking for novels. The habit of reading once formed, as the taste and judgment are elevated, the mental requirements of the reader tend to become enlarged. From an English standpoint, indeed, the proportion of fiction does not seem to us to be very high. In the libraries established here under the Public Libraries Acts, the percentage of fiction circulated rarely falls so low as fifty per cent., and, in the larger number of libraries, may be roughly estimated at between sixty and seventy per cent. The fifty-five per cent. shown by the Paris figures comes to us, therefore, rather as an agreeable surprise.

III.

Beside these libraries under the direction of the Maires, there are a certain number of popular free libraries established and supported by voluntary efforts. Without dwelling upon the history of these libraries, all of which have been formed since 1860, it may be stated that there are now fourteen such libraries in as many arrondissements.

In addition to a grant which they receive from the Municipal Council of Paris of from 1,500 to 2,000 francs, their members pay a small monthly subscription.

The numbers of members is constantly increasing. Thus the Bibliothèque Populaire of the 14th arrondissement, established in 1871, which in 1875 had 388 members, had increased in 1878 to 595, and in 1883 to 740 members. The libraries have a minimum of 2,000 volumes, and in some cases upwards of 5,000.

In connexion with several of these libraries periodical lectures are delivered with the object of supplementing the instruction derived from the books; and in the 14th arrondissement excursions are organized on Sundays, preceded by suitable explanations or lectures given at the library on the previous evening.

IV.

Thirty-two communes in the Departément de la Seine have established a Municipal Library intended to supplement the results of primary education. Founded for the most part within the last few years, they have been increasingly successful. M. Dardenne reports that they have a stock of 35,400 volumes, and that the number of volumes lent in 1882 was 51,466. The librarian is generally the communal schoolmaster, who is paid a small sum for his services. The General Council of the Seine grant a subvention of 20,000 francs annually. It is expected that before long libraries will be in operation in every commune of the department.

V.

There are fourteen libraries in the same Département established by private efforts, nearly all of them founded since 1871. They are also partly supported by grants from the General Council, and partly by the small subscriptions of the readers, 10 or 15 centimes monthly, though one of them is open gratuitously. The loans for the year 1881-82 amounted to 54,031 volumes.

The entire number of these popular libraries, it will thus be seen, is: libraries under official direction, 54; voluntary libraries 28—making a grand total of 82 libraries. The number of volumes in the 54 former libraries is 123,231, the number of volumes lent in the year (1881-2) 414,788, which number, as we have seen, was considerably exceeded in the past year. The numbers of volumes and of loans in the case of the voluntary libraries cannot be given with the same exactness, but the number of volumes may be safely estimated at 60,000 in the 28 libraries, and of loans at 100,000.

M. Dardenne follows his report by an account of the work done by popular libraries in other countries, particularly in our own country and the United States (though curiously enough he forgets to refer to the work done by the Library of the Corporation of London). The figures representing the work done in Paris cannot, indeed, be compared with those showing the results of the work done by the Free Public Libraries of towns like Liverpool, Manchester, Birmingham and Leeds. But it is a melancholy consideration for a Londoner, whatever may be his satisfaction with the good work done at the Guildhall, at the Westminster Free Public Library, and at the voluntary free libraries maintained at Notting Hill, at Bethnal Green and in the Kennington Road, that there should be so little within the hundred square miles of London houses to compare with the provision made for the working classes by the 82 libraries distributed over the City of Paris and the Départements of the Seine.

THE NEW BUILDING AT THE BRITISH MUSEUM.

By the Editor.

John Pinkerton somewhere relates that Mr. Planta, who, as our readers are aware, was one of the first Principal Librarians of the British Museum, in talking with him of his position there, said, "My place is the first in the *whole* world; for Europe is superior to every other quarter of the globe; England to every other country in Europe; London to every other city in England; the British Museum to every other institution in London; and my post to all the others in the Museum."

No English librarian is likely to contest the position of supremacy among his fellows which is undoubtedly held by the Principal Librarian of the British Museum. Nor is any Englishman likely to admit of any doubt as to the position held by the British Museum among all institutions with which it can be compared. It may, indeed, be exceeded by the Bibliothèque Nationale in the mere number of its printed books and manuscripts. But it is undoubted that the national library of our neighbours, as regards the efficiency and liberality of its administration, will not for an instant bear comparison with the English national library in Bloomsbury.

In these respects, indeed, the British Museum has no competitor but itself; and accordingly we find that it is constantly endeavouring not to outdo something that has been done by this or that library, but, taking a loftier aim, to surpass its own previous performances. Let us only recall what has been done by the Museum during the last few years. Let us think of the removal by Mr. Bond of those formalities at the entrances which were so irritating, just because it was felt that in the case of regular frequenters they were such needless formalities. Let us recall the boon conferred upon students by the introduction of the electric light, and the consequent extension of the hours during which the Museum keeps open its hospitable doors. Let us remember the beneficent revolution introduced into the catalogues by the present method of printing the entries. Let us consider the boon conferred upon students of special authors or subjects by the issue of those "Excerpts" from the catalogue, which are as yet, indeed, but few in number, but which are destined as times goes on to render such services to literature and bibliography. And lastly, let us think of all that is meant when it is said that the Museum has already printed and is about to publish a complete catalogue of all its English books previous to the year 1641.

One of the latest of the improvements at the Museum consists in the erection of the stately pile of buildings which has sprung up in the form of a wing at the south-east corner of the Museum. We owe it to the kindness of Mr. George Bullen, the Keeper of the Printed Books, that we have had an opportunity of inspecting these buildings, and we propose to lay before our readers a short account of them. For most of the particulars here given as to the building we have to thank Mr. Nichols.

The new wing occupies the site of what was the garden attached to the official residence of the principal librarian, and has its principal front to Montague Street, and in the solid and imposing style of its architecture harmonises with the character of the main edifice. The dimensions of this front are one hundred and twenty feet by forty feet (120 by 40). Two sides are then carried westward to the Museum walls, the dimensions of the sides being respectively—the north side, eighty feet by forty (80 by 40); the south side, one hundred and two feet by forty (102 by 40). The

fronts are of stone, while the walls looking into the open court enclosed between the north and south sides are of white glazed bricks, which will secure abundance of light to the rooms lighted from this court.

The building consists of four separate floors, viz., the basement, which is very fairly lighted from without; the ground floor; a mezzanine floor; and above this a skylight gallery. There will be two entrances to the new building from the present Manuscript Department, while the main entrance from Montague Street can of course be employed for the admission of readers, if it is found to be desirable.

The foundation stone was laid by Mr. Edward A. Bond, the Principal Librarian, on Saturday, the 23rd of September, 1882, and it is anticipated that the building will be completed in about two months' time. The work has been executed, as was to be expected, in the most approved style, and all the modern improvements have been introduced. The whole building is fire-proof, with iron girders and concrete floors. The wainscotings are of oak, and the floors of pitch-pine.

The disposition to be made of the additional space thus placed at the disposal of the officers of the Museum will probably be as follows:—The basement and the ground floor on the north side will be devoted to the continually and rapidly increasing store of newspapers, which has outgrown the space allotted to it in the existing buildings. One of the apartments designed for newspapers will be used as a reading room for the use of persons consulting them.

The ground and mezzanine floors on the south side will be allotted to the Department of Manuscripts, and will afford studies for the officers and rooms for consulting special MSS. and for the collation of texts.

The mezzanine floor and skylight gallery on the front and north sides will be devoted to the Department of Prints and Drawings, which has never yet had proper accomodation, and will provide a convenient exhibition room.

Finally, the south section of the skylight gallery will be used for the exhibition of the several collections of Glass.

We have only to add that the cost of this building has been defrayed from funds bequeathed to the Trustees of the British Museum by Mr. William White, a gentleman who formerly resided in the neighbourhood of the Museum (Tavistock Square), and who at his death in the year 1823 left them the reversion of a sum of £63,941 to be used at their discretion, but apparently with a hope that it might be expended on an extension of the Museum buildings. After making provision for his son, the testator left his real estate and the residue of his personal estate "unto the Governors for the time being of that National Institution, the British Museum. For from the Nation my property came, and when I leave my son enough to be a Farmer, he has that which may make him as happy and respectable as he would be in any Station." A life interest in the fund, however, was left to the testator's widow, and Mrs. White survived to enjoy her interest until the year 1879. The sum accruing to the Trustees was then reduced by the payment of legacy duty to £57,572. Of this sum some £11,000 has been laid out in the erection of a new Sculpture Gallery between the Elgin and Assyrian Galleries, and the remainder is being spent upon the building we have just described.

In connection with the inscription which runs in bold letters along the frieze on the principal front in Montague Street:—"ERECTED FROM FUNDS BEQUEATHED TO THE BRITISH MUSEUM BY WILLIAM WHITE. A.D. MDCCCLXXXIII.," it is interesting to notice the exact words used by Mr. White in his will. They were as follows:—

"The money and property so bequeathed to the British Museum I wish to be employed in building or improving upon the said institution ; and that round the frieze of some part of such building, or, if this money is otherwise employed, then over or upon that which has so employed it, the words 'Gulielmus White Arm. Brittanniae dicavit 18—' be carved, or words to that import. It is a little vanity of no harm, and may tempt others to follow my example, in thinking more of the nation and less of themselves."

The sentiments thus expressed may well be commended to the consideration of those who have more riches to leave behind than means of fitly disposing of them. There are certainly not many ways of obtaining a desirable immortality at so cheap a price as the endowing or building of a library.

THE LEGES BIBLIOTHECAE FINSPONGENSIS.

The library of the Mansion of Finspong, of which a catalogue has been recently prepared by Dr. Bernhard Lundstedt, the Sub-librarian of the Royal Library at Stockholm,[1] is a private library dating from the eighteenth century.

Its history, as related in the introduction to the catalogue, is not uninteresting. Louis de Geers was a Fleming, who in the seventeenth century left his native country to settle in Sweden, where he became Superintendent of the Royal Iron-works, and died in 1695. In 1668 he built the mansion of Finspong, which is situated on an island in the river Finspong, in the province of Östergötland, and is famed for its fine collection of pictures and magnificent park.

The books collected by the founder of the family were dispersed at his death, and the present library was chiefly formed by his son and grandson, who bore the same name. The latter was born in 1705 and died in 1758. Like the Marquis de Morante, the subject of Chancellor Christie's charming paper, Louis de Geers himself compiled a catalogue of his books, extending to 6,557 works in about 8,000 volumes. In the preface to this catalogue, dated 1747, he gives an account of the formation of the library. In this account he states that the books had been collected partly by his uncle, a young man of learning and taste, and partly by himself, but that the largest accession to the collection was made unexpectedly in consequence of the death of one of his friends. This friend, whose name he does not mention, but who is supposed to have been President Anders von Drake, who died in 1744, owed him a very considerable sum of money, which, he does him the justice to say, he believes he would have infallibly repaid if he had lived. The bulk of the property he left behind him consisted of his books, and Louis de Geers preferred, he tells us, to add them to his own library rather than expose his friend's reputation to the censure of the public. Thus, he says, his library had been formed, or at all events enlarged, at a cost to him which was greater than its intrinsic value. The code of laws which he drew up for the use of his library—for he took pleasure in placing his books at the disposal of his friends—bears evidence to his literary tastes, and seems not unworthy to find a

[1] Katalog öfver Finspongs Bibliotek. . . . Stockholm: Kongl. Boktryck, Norstedt & Söner. 8vo. pp. 14 + xxviii + 738.

place in our pages. The playful parody of the Twelve Tables of the old Roman law is sufficiently obvious.

It is pleasant to be able to record that since the estate passed in 1856 into the hands of its present owner, the well-known iron and cannon founder, Carl Edvard Ekman, the library has been considerably enlarged, and the present catalogue records the titles of over 12,000 works, in about 20,200 volumes.

We now present to our readers this interesting memorial of library jurisprudence, and of a Swedish book-lover of the last century:

LEGES BIBLIOTHECAE FINSPONGENSIS.

I. Emolumentum Bibliothecae suprema lex esto.

II. Librum codicem vel aliud quidquam ne quis auferto.

III. Nihil mutuo sibi minus dono dari quis petito.

IV. Si tamen speciali permissu possessoris librum mutuo obtineat cum chirographo pretium aliamve hypothecam dato.

V. Quaevis plura gratis addere musaeo licitum esto.

VI. Librum quemcunque videndi et in musaeo perlegendi potestas esto.

VII. Quodlibet excerpere et annotare jus esto.

VIII. Finita lectione librum suo loco reponito.

IX. Si volumen maculaverit laceraverit ullove modo damnum intulerit aliud praestato.

X. Numeros et ordines codicum ne turbato.

XI. Catalogum inconsiderate tractando ne conspurcato.

XII. Qui legem contra iverit codicem Bibliothecae dono dato.

Datae Finspongae xii ante Kalendas Octobres
Anni m.dcc.xlvii.

The Library Chronicle.

The LIBRARY CHRONICLE *is issued on the 15th of every month, and consists of not less than sixteen pages. It contains articles on all matters relating to library economy and bibliography; notices of library catalogues and reports; notices of library and bibliographical publications, English and foreign library news, etc., etc.*

Though the LIBRARY CHRONICLE *is published by the Library Association, it must be understood that the Association cannot be responsible for the views expressed by the various contributors to the* CHRONICLE.

All communications, which, if intended for the current number, should reach the Editor not later than the 10th of the month, as well as books for review, should be addressed to the Hon. Editor, Mr. Ernest C. Thomas, care of Messrs. J. Davy and Sons, Dryden Press, 137, Long Acre, W.C.

Remittances and orders for subscriptions and advertisements should be addressed to Mr. E. M. Borrajo, care of the Publishers. The space reserved for advertisements will be limited, and no room can be found for general advertisements. The particular attention of librarians and library committees, of publishers and second-hand booksellers, is called to the advantages of the LIBRARY CHRONICLE *as an advertising medium for their special purposes. Short advertisements will be received from candidates for library appointments at low rates; and it is hoped that space may be found for a column of Books for Sale or Exchange.*

The LIBRARY CHRONICLE *will be sent post free for a subscription of Six Shillings a year. Every Member of the Library Association, whose subscription for the current year (which is due in advance) has been duly paid, is entitled to a copy sent post free.*

The Library Association.

The next Monthly Meeting of the Association will be held on Friday evening, April 4, at 8 p.m., at the London Institution, when a Paper will be read by the Treasurer, Mr. Robert Harrison, on "Charles Nodier."

The Council have appointed Mr. E. M. Borrajo Assistant Secretary of the Association.

JANUARY MONTHLY MEETING.

An account of the January Meeting, held Jan. 4, has already been printed as a postcript to the account of the December Meeting. See MONTHLY NOTES for December, p. 153.

FEBRUARY MONTHLY MEETING.

The February Monthly Meeting was held on Feb. 1, at 8 p.m., at the London Institution, the Treasurer, Mr. Robert Harrison, in the chair.

Mr. WILLIAM BEER, 30, Ashfield Terrace, East, Newcastle-under-Lyne, having been duly proposed at the previous meeting, was elected a Member of the Association.

It was proposed by the Chairman on behalf of the Council, and unanimously resolved: "That this Meeting of Members of the Library Association of the United Kingdom desire to express their sense of the great loss sustained by the Association in the death of their most valued Member and Vice-president, Mr. B. R. Wheatley, who, from the foundation of the Association, has taken so considerable a part in its work."

The motion to rescind the resolution carried at the January Monthly Meeting for the appointment of a Committee "to collect information as to the working of the Free Libraries Acts in small places," of which Mr. W. H. Overall, Librarian of the Corporation Library, had given notice, was then brought forward, and was seconded by Mr. C. Welch, Sub-librarian of the Corporation Library.

After a long discussion the motion was, by leave of the Meeting, withdrawn.

MARCH MONTHLY MEETING.

The March Monthly Meeting was held March 7, at 8 p.m., at the London Institution, Mr. H. R. Tedder in the Chair.

It was announced that Mr. WILLIAM JONES, Librarian, Public Library, Cheltenham, and the Rev. WILLIAM ROGERS, Hon. Sec. of the London Institution, had become Members of the Association.

Mr. J. DANGERFIELD, Lombard Street, West Bromwich, and Mr. WILLIAM DOWNING, Bookseller, 74, New Street, Birmingham, having been duly proposed at the previous meeting were then elected Members of the Association.

Mr. JAMES CARRAGHER, 7, Townhead Street, Hamilton, was proposed for election at the next meeting by Mr. Thomas Mason, and seconded by Mr. F. T. Barrett.

The Chairman then called upon Dr. Garnett to read his Paper on 'Librarianship in the Seventeenth Century.' After a short discussion a vote of thanks was unanimously carried to Dr. Garnett for his paper.

Library Echoes.

The establishment of an English Library Journal on a wider basis and with more ambitious aims than the *Monthly Notes* of the Library Association, is a measure which needs no justification to those who are already familiar with the work of the Association. To that wider circle of the users of libraries and the lovers of books, with whom we hope to find acceptance, the justification for our attempt to interest them can only be shown in the pages of the Journal itself.

The idea that the range of library interests and activities is sufficiently important to demand a journal of their own derives fresh support from the establishment in Germany of a *second* journal devoted to Librarianship. The new *Centralblatt für Bibliothekswesen*, of which the first three numbers are before us, is another indication of the influence of that great wave of growing interest in library work, which took its origin from the meeting of American librarians at Philadelphia in the centennial year (1876), followed by the International Conference at London in 1877.

Meantime the *Neuer Anzeiger* of brave old Julius Petzholdt, the Nestor of German bibliographers, has entered upon the *forty-fifth* year of its existence, and promises to maintain the position it has earned by so many years of good but not always appreciated work.

On the other side of the Atlantic the *Library Journal* has closed its *eighth* volume and is entering upon a ninth year of increasing usefulness.

We have been told over and over again that the librarian who reads is lost. In view of all this literary activity may we not say that the librarian who writes is *found?*

It is sad that in our first number we should be called upon to express our sense of the loss sustained by English librarians in the death of Mr. B. R. Wheatley. None of us will soon or easily forget his kindliness and courtesy; nor would it be easy to express in words our sense of the value of a life spent like his in maintaining the importance and dignity of the librarian's work.

This is not the place to dwell upon his long career of usefulness. We can here only express a hope that the precedent already set in the case of the late Mr. Winter Jones may be followed in the case of Mr. B. R. Wheatley, and that Mr. H. B. Wheatley may be invited to contribute to our next annual volume a suitable record of his amiable and accomplished brother.

We learn from Mr. C. H. Hopwood, Q.C., who is in charge of the Free Libraries Bill, that the Bill now stands for second reading on the 26th. Mr. Hopwood fears, however, that in the state of business it is very unlikely that the Bill will come on. The question of the 2d. rate seems to be an almost insuperable difficulty in the way of progress. Petitions against the proposed increase in the rate are being presented. On the other hand the Corporation of Leicester, we understand, are promoting a Bill embodying a power to levy a 2d. rate.

It is more satisfactory to note that the question of the distribution of public documents to libraries appears to be making progress. A small committee presided over by the Controller of the Stationery Office, Mr. T. D. Pigott, has recommended that the surplus stock of Record publications should be thus distributed, instead of being sold by auction. A circular has been issued inviting libraries to state what publications they would wish to receive.

Although we do not feel quite sure that the Lord Lieutenants and the Bishops are the most suitable channel through which such an enquiry should be addressed to libraries, we are glad that Mr. Pigott seems to be really desirous that the claim of public libraries to copies of documents printed at the public expense should be admitted by the Treasury.

We have furnished Mr. Pigott with a list of the libraries represented by the Library Association, and have said what we could to urge the special claims of libraries established and supported by the ratepayers to a full share in the proposed distribution.

We have received an official copy of the Papers and Proceedings of the American Library Association, and shall call attention to them in our next number.

The Executive Board of the American Association has decided to hold the 1884 Meeting at Toronto, and Messrs. John Hallam and James Bain, the Chairman and Librarian of the Free Library at Toronto, have been appointed a Committee of Reception and Arrangements at Toronto, with power to add to their number. A Programme Committee of three has also been appointed, including our friend Mr. R. R. Bowker.

The British Association has just issued a formal notification to its members that the Montreal meeting has been arranged to begin on Wednesday, August 27th.

Those English librarians who propose to take part in the visit to Canada will doubtless be anxious to make their arrangements. If they will communicate their intention to us, we will see that they receive the earliest possible notice of the arrangements made at Toronto for their reception.

EDITOR.

Library Notes and News.

HOME.

ABERDEEN.—A public meeting was held in St. Katharine's Hall on Dec. 17, under the auspices of the United Trades' Council, for the purpose of discussing the advantages of Free Public Libraries with a view to promote the movement. In the adoption of the Acts at Aberdeen, Lord Provost Matthews was in the Chair, and ex-Lord Provost Esslemont and Mr. A. D. Milne were among the speakers, and resolutions in favour of the movement were passed, the proceedings being throughout of a very enthusiastic nature.

On Feb. 19 a public meeting was held, Mr. P. Esslemont, and afterwards Mr. Alexander Walker, President of the Mechanics' Institution, in the Chair, at which a resolution was moved by Mr. J. D. Milne, and carried amid loud applause, that the time has arrived when the sense of the community as to the adoption of the Act should be taken, and a requisition should be presented to the Lord Provost in accordance with the provisions of the Act.

BIRKENHEAD.—The Librarian and Members of the Staff of the Liverpool Public Library have presented to Mr. W. May, the new Librarian at the Birkenhead Free Library, a silver hunting-watch, with suitable inscription and an illuminated address. The presentation was made by Mr. Cowell at a meeting held on the occasion. Mr. May has, for over nine years, been the chief cataloguing assistant at the Liverpool Public Library, and his colleagues, in parting with him, expressed their satisfaction

at his promotion, and their good wishes for his success in his new sphere of labour.

BIRMINGHAM: FREE LIBRARIES.—We understand that arrangements are being made for the delivery of a number of lectures in connection with the Libraries, which are designed to be directly introductory to the use of the books in the libraries, and not merely of a general character.

Lectures are also being delivered in connection with the Manor of Aston Free Library.

CAMPBELTOWN.—A movement in favour of the adoption of the Public Libraries Acts has been set on foot at Campbeltown. A number of letters and articles on the subject have appeared in the *Argyllshire Herald.*

CHELTENHAM.—Mr. William Jones, who has been for some years an assistant in the Leeds Public Libraries, has been appointed Librarian of the new Public Library at Cheltenham.

CHESTERFIELD.—At a meeting of the Town Council on Feb. 12, Alderman Higginbottom moved the adoption of the report of the Free Library Committee. Councillor Glossop moved, as an amendment, that the report be adopted, with the exception of the clause in which the Committee recommended the extension of the privileges of the library to persons resident outside the limits of the borough. After considerable discussion, turning principally on the legality of the proposal, the amendment was carried by eleven votes to two.

The Town Council intend to petition Parliament in favour of Mr. Hopwood's Bill.

EDINBURGH.—The Annual Report of the Keeper of the Advocates' Library states that the number of separate articles received during the year 1883 was 21,269, being an increase on the previous year of 2,558. The number of volumes issued to reader was 85,621, of manuscripts 558. During the year the task has been taken in hand of checking the books upon the shelves by the catalogue.

ELGIN.—A proposal for the adoption of the Free Libraries Act in this burgh has been rejected by a majority of 319, only thirty-six ratepayers voting in its favour.

GLASGOW.—Preceptor Wilson has issued an important memorandum on the position of Glasgow in relation to Free Public Libraries. After touching upon what has been done in Liverpool, Manchester and Birmingham, the memorandum goes on to estimate the funds now, or, in a short time, available in Glasgow for purposes of public libraries to be over £125,000. The scheme suggested would include (1) a central establishment, embracing A. The Mitchell Library, extended and enlarged, to be the permanent Reference Library with a proposed space for 250,000 volumes, and accommodation for 500 readers. B. A Central Lending Library, for which it is suggested Stirling's Library might, after re-organization, and, if the management approved, be used, and continue to bear its old name. The proposed stock to be about 30,000 volumes. C. A Central News-room, with ample accommodation. (2) A series of at least six or eight branch-libraries and news-rooms. It is proposed that the whole revenues of the existing library trusts should be given to the public in the shape of books (including book-binding), magazines and newspapers, and that buildings, rent and administration should be charged to the library-rate. Under this arrangement the Mitchell Library would have about £2,500 a year to spend on books for the Reference Department; Stirling's Library could spend some £600 a year on books for the Lending Department; and Baillie's Institution as a group of, say four branch libraries, might, out of a total of £1,000, expend £250 a year in books for each branch library. The cost of maintaining two more branches, the interest and sinking fund for a central building, costing, say £50,000, and the administration, &c., of the whole is estimated at £9,000 a year. This sum would be produced by a rate of three farthings in the pound. It is to be hoped that this well-considered scheme will receive all the attention which it deserves, and that Glasgow will soon be provided with a Public Library adequate to its position and importance.

ISLE OF MAN.—A movement for establishing a Free Public Library is in progress. The Lieut.-Governor, Mr. Spencer Walpole, speaking at Liverpool on January 23, said that "he hoped the reproach would soon

be put away from the Isle of Man that they had no Free Library to read in."

LEEDS: PUBLIC LIBRARIES.—The Town Council are, we learn, about to complete arrangements for lighting the Public Library with incandescent electric lamps, so that at our Dublin meeting Mr. Yates may perhaps be able to compare his experiences with those of Mr. Cowell at Liverpool.

LIVERPOOL.—At the Free Public Library on the 3rd inst., Mr. Cowell lectured on "Customs, Superstitions and Folk-lore of Lancashire."

The Library Committee have taken a new departure by opening evening reading-rooms in parts of the city at a distance from the Free Library in William Brown Street. With the sanction of the School Board, three Board schools, and by permission of the managers, one Church school, have been made use of for the purpose. The first free evening reading-room was opened on the 11th inst. by the Mayor, accompanied by Councillor Stewart and Mr. Cowell, at the Stanley Road Board schools. Councillor Stewart, after pointing out the work which had been done by the Free Library and its branches during the thirty years which it had been established, said that latterly the Committee thought they ought to do something of a more missionary nature, and that they ought to try and extend their operations to distant parts of the city, and he considered that to be a wise determination. The Mayor, in declaring the reading-room open, laid stress on the great value which was attached by the inhabitants to the central reading-room in William Brown Street. The previous week 20,240 books and periodicals had been issued for reading in the various rooms of the Free Library — a daily average of 3,678—and Mr. Cowell estimated that fully one-fourth of the visitors attended in the evening. No account was taken of those who dropped into the room to read the newspapers, so he thought it would be a fair estimate to say that 1,300 or 1,400 people were found in those rooms every evening of the week. Their thanks were especially due to Mr. Stewart for the part he had taken in establishing these free reading-rooms, and to the School Board for the readiness with which they had granted the use of rooms in the schools under their management. After the usual vote of thanks the proceedings terminated. The room was plentifully supplied with newspapers and periodicals, and was well lighted and warmed. The other three reading-rooms were opened on the 12th, 13th and 14th inst. respectively.

LONDON: BRITISH MUSEUM.—The list of "Excerpts" from the printed catalogue of the Museum Library, which are now on sale, has just been increased by the publication of that devoted to Bacon. It is expected that "Aristotle" will also be ready before the end of the month. The list of those now on sale include: Æschylus, Æsop, America, England, London and Virgil. Byron, Swedenborg and Xenophon are out of print.

LONDON: CORPORATION LIBRARY.—We learn from the *Daily News* that the new catalogue of the City Library, which is to include a double alphabetical arrangement under authors' names and subjects, is rapidly progressing, the classification by subjects being all that is still incomplete. It has been determined to print an edition of 1,000 copies at a cost of £700. The Corporation have also voted a sum of £200 for additional assistance in order to expedite the appearance of this valuable key to the important collection of books at Guildhall. How the library is appreciated is shown by the facts that on two days during the present month the attendance of readers was 1,734 and 1,710 respectively.

LONDON: INNER TEMPLE.—The announcement that the Inner Temple Library, which has hitherto been open until six o'clock every day in the week, will in future be closed at three o'clock on Saturdays is causing some dissatisfaction among members of that society.

LONDON: R. MED. AND CHIR. SOC.—At the Annual Meeting of the Society, a joint-committee of this Society and of the other Societies for which the late Mr. B. R. Wheatley did such good work, was appointed to start subscriptions for a memorial fund. Mr. Berkeley Hill is the Hon. Sec., and an account has been opened at the Union Bank, Argyll Place, W.

Mr. J. B. Bailey, of the Radcliffe Library, Oxford, has been appointed Mr. Wheatley's successor.

ST. HELENS.—On the 4th inst. Mr. Alfred Lancaster, Librarian of the Free Library, St. Helens, read a paper on "Free Libraries and their advantages to the People" before the St. Helens Literary and Scientific Association.

SWANSEA.—At a meeting of the Town Council on Feb. 14, a letter having been received from the Treasury consenting to the sum of £10,000 being raised, it was resolved that the General Purposes Committee be authorized to take the necessary steps for obtaining plans for the erection of a free library and science and art schools.

WIGAN.—Mr. Folkard contributes to the *Wigan Observer* of March 5, another of his articles entitled, "A Journey round the Wigan Reference Library."

A leading article, in the same issue of the paper, points out that Wigan has a special interest in Mr. Hopwood's Bill, inasmuch as "Wigan finds the penny rate totally inadequate to maintain its magnificent Library in that state of efficiency which the Committee and the town would wish."

An interesting article on the British Museum appeared in the *Engineer* of Jan. 18th (pp. 56, 57), dealing chiefly with the questions of space, ventilation and the electric light. In reference to the pressure upon the accommodation for readers, it is mentioned that the possibility of establishing a branch establishment at South Kensington to be supplied with books from the Central Library by means of a pneumatic tube has been seriously discussed. This, it is urged, would be very convenient for students living at the West End of the town, and would relieve the existing pressure in Great Russell Street.

In connection with the coming International Health Exhibition, it is proposed by the Council to form a Reading-room and Library to which authors, publishers and others are invited to send copies of works on subjects embraced in either of the two divisions of the exhibition —Health and Education. The books received will be classified, and a printed catalogue of them be prepared.

Mr. J. P. Briscoe has issued an announcement inviting subscriptions for a Second Series of *Old Nottinghamshire*, the number of copies to be limited, as far as practicable, to that subscribed for. The Editor hopes that he may be enabled to issue it some time in May.

We have received from Mr. W. H. K. Wright the Index number of *The Western Antiquary; or, Devon and Cornwall Note Book*, with an Introduction by Mr. J. Brooking Rowe, F.S.A. With the number is given, as a frontispiece to the volume, a portrait of the Editor. Mr. Wright assures his readers that there is no fear that "such a publication will languish from dearth of material. . . . He has at all times been amply furnished with interesting articles for publication." Mr. Wright also calls attention to the proposed Devonshire Bibliography, and trusts "that before another volume of the *Western Antiquary* appears, some practical steps may be taken."

FOREIGN.

Europe.

BERLIN: ROYAL LIBRARY.—From a statement of the sums appropriated to the State-supported libraries of Prussia for the year 1883-4, which is printed in the new *Centralblatt*, we find that the amount devoted to this library is, for ordinary expenses, 251,531 marks (about £12,576); for extraordinary expenses, chiefly representing the cost of acquiring and altering the Niederländisches Palais, the sum of 3,016,000 marks (about £150,800). The amount appropriated for the ordinary purposes of the year 1884-5 is larger than that just mentioned by 37,625 marks (about £1,880).

BRUSSELS.—The terrible fire which, on the evening of Dec. the 8th, destroyed the splendid Palais de la Nation, in which the Belgian Chamber of Representatives held its sittings, utterly consumed the valuable library of the Palais in which there are said to have been 125,000 volumes.

GÖTTINGEN.—Dr. Gustav Löwe, Custos of the University Library, died on the

16th of December last. His death was caused by a fall from the upper floor of the library building down the shaft of the lift employed for raising books from the basement.

MADRID.—It is announced that the sum of £36,000 has been voted by the Spanish Cortes for the purchase of the library of the Duke of Osuna. The library contains over 36,000 articles, including a large collection of MSS., many of them of extreme value.

PADUA.—Monsignore Antonio Maria Fabris, Librarian of the University of Padua, died on Jan. 19th, aged 78 years. He was born at Bovolenta in 1805, and educated in the Padua Seminary. A distinguished scholar, and holding liberal views in religious matters, he was appointed by the National Government director of the Faculty of Theology in the University of Padua in 1866, and Librarian in 1868.

PARIS: BIBLIOTHÈQUE NATIONALE.—The sum appropriated for the maintenance of the library for the year 1884 is 711,973 francs. Of this sum 385,350 francs are for salaries. For acquisitions and binding in the Printed Book Department, 117,500 francs are allotted; to the Department of MSS. 40,500 francs; and to special Cataloguing expenses, 50,000 francs.

PARIS: BIBLIOTHÈQUE STE GENEVIÈVE.—M. Barbou has become Librarian of this Library in the room of M. Mangin deceased.

This Library is one of the few libraries in which the number of volumes has been actually counted. We received a note some time ago from M. Guillaume Depping, of this Library, in which he wrote: "C'est moi-même qui en ai opéré le recensement volume par volume en 1875, et j'y ai compté 120,000 volumes et 2,266 manuscrits (plus 126 liasses de pièces et de documents, également MSS., mais non encore reliés en volumes). Depuis lors le chiffre annuel d'entrées est d'environ 5,000 par an."

PARIS: LIBRARIANSHIP EXAMINATION.—Notice has been given by the Minister of Public Instruction that an Examination will be held at the Bibliothèque de l'Arsenal on the 26th of May next for a Certificate of competency to undertake the functions of Librarian in the University libraries or the Faculty Libraries in the departments. Candidates must produce (1) their certificates of birth with their diplomas: (2) a note of the work they have done, their experience, and of the languages they are acquainted with.

The examination will be partly written, partly oral. The written examination will include:—

1. An essay on some point of bibliography from a librarian's point of view.

2. The cataloguing of 15 works of different dates and subjects, including their numbering, and entering them in the accession list, a classed catalogue and an alphabetical list. A neat and legible handwriting will be required.

The *oral* examination will consist of:—

1. Questions on bibliography and the management of a University Library.

2. Questions on Modern Languages. The candidate must at least be able to read a moderately difficult German book at sight.

ST. PETERSBURG.—Karl Rudolf Minzloff, Librarian of the Imperial Public Library, died on the 11th of November last, in his 72nd year.

ZÜRICH. — In January the various libraries of Zürich arranged a Zwingli Exhibition, consisting of books and manuscripts with portraits and medals illustrating the life of the Reformer.

The Bibliothèque Nationale has printed a *Catalogue des Dissertations et Écrits Académiques provenant des Échanges avec les Universités étrangères et reçus par la Bibliothèque Nationale en* 1882 (*Paris*, Klincksieck, 1884, 8vo. pp. 101, double coll., 3 fr.). The conventions by which the French faculties receive these publications from foreign universities in exchange for their own were concluded in the year 1881-82, and were not retrospective. The library authorities regret that certain gaps therefore will be found which they hope will be lessened in future years. The publications are arranged according to the alphabetical order of the names of the places from which they come, and these

further arranged under the several faculties, preceded by more general publications.

One result of the recent Luther-celebrations in Germany has been the establishment of special Luther Libraries at the Wartburg and at the Paulus-Museum at Worms.

We have received from P. E. Richter "Verzeichniss der neuen Werke der Königl. öffentl. Bibliothek zu Dresden, 1883" (large 8vo. pp. 57, double coll.) compiled with his usual care, and accompanied by a classified index.

Herr Richter has also sent us a very useful and neatly printed "Adressbuch der Professoren, Docenten und Lectoren der Universitäten und technischen Hochschulen Deutschlands, Deutsch-Österreichs, der Schweiz und der Ostseeprovinzen," Leipzig: Teubner, 1883, small 8vo., pp. iv. 158, of which he is the editor.

We are glad to notice that Herr Richter, who, as our readers are aware, is Secretary of the Public Library at Dresden, has received the honorary title of "Bibliothekar." The rank of Oberbibliothekar has recently been conferred also on Dr. O. Hartwig, the University Librarian at Halle, and joint-editor of the new German *Centralblatt für Bibliothekswesen.*

We learn from the *Centralblatt* that one of the oldest, if not the oldest library official in Germany, completed his 90th year on the 24th of January. This is Karl Goebel, who is an amanuensis in the University Library of Halle, and who still regularly attends the library for three hours daily.

United States.

Boston.—Four premiums of 4,000 dols., 3,000 dols., 2,000 dols. and 1,000 dols. respectively, are offered by the Board of Trustees of the Boston Public Library for the four best designs for a library building, for which the sum of 690,000 dols. has already been appropriated. The successful plans are to become the property of the city, which is entitled to make any use of them without any claim of the designers to further compensation or employment. Designs must be sent in by June 1st.

Kentucky (Frankfort).—The *Courrier des États Unis* contains an amusing account of the election by the State Legislature of a lady to the Librarianship of the State Library of Kentucky. There were six candidates. The only gentleman, however, was hopelessly distanced on the first ballot. After innumerable ballots taken amidst the greatest excitement the number of candidates was reduced to two. The voting was 58 to 58. The officer of the house had then to be called in to preserve order, the partizans of the respective candidates all but coming to blows. Ultimately Mrs. Hanson was elected, upon which the main supporter of the rival candidate (Mrs. Cook) proposed that the election of Mrs. Hanson should be unanimous. This course was adopted, and the proceedings ended in the restoration of harmony.

Michigan: University Library.—Mr. Justin Winsor, the Librarian of Harvard University, and the President of the American Library Association, delivered an address to an audience of 2,500 people, on Dec. 12, on the opening of the new Library building of the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor. There was also an address by the Librarian of the University. The *Library Journal* pertinently observes: "It is noteworthy as one of the few occasions—we are not sure that it is not the first occasion—in which librarians have taken a leading part in the dedication of a Library building."

New York.—The *New York Daily Tribune* prints the following "Popular Science Catechism" on the Lenox Library:—

What is this?
This, dear, is the great Lenox Library.
What is it for?
Nobody knows.
But I thought you said it was a library?
So I did.
Then there must be books in it?
Perhaps.
Why is it called the "Lenox" Library?
Because it was founded and given by Mr. James Lenox.
Given to whom?
To the City of New York.
Oh! then it is a public library?
Yes, dear.
How delightful! Why, it must be very useful to students and the reading public?
Very.

But why are the doors locked?

To keep people out.

But I thought you said it was a public library?

So I did.

Then how can they keep people out?

By locking the doors.

But why?

To keep the pretty books from being soiled.

Why! who would soil the pretty books?

The public.

How?

By reading them.

Gracious! What are all those brass things on the roof?

Cannon, dear.

What are they for?

To blow the heads off students who want to get in.

Why! and see those gallows!

Yes, dear.

And people hanging!

Certainly, sweet.

Who are they?

Students who got in.

But is there no way of getting into the library without being shot or hanged?

Yes, sweet.

How?

By writing an humble letter of application to the kind Lord High Librarian.

Well?

He will refer you to the Assistant Inspector of Character.

And then?

It will go to the Third Deputy Examiner of Morals.

Next?

He will pass it on to the Controller of Ways and Means.

And he?

He will, after mature deliberation, send it to the Commercial Agency.

What for?

To get a proper understanding of the applicant's solvency.

Well?

Then it comes back for the monthly meeting of the Sub-Committee on Private Inquiry.

Why?

To ascertain if the applicant has any real necessity for consulting any particular book in the library.

And suppose he has?

Why, then the paper goes to the Sub-Janitor.

And what does he do?

He finds out if the Astor or Mercantile Libraries have the book.

And if they have?

He tells the applicant to go there and consult it.

But if they have it not?

Then the application goes to the Commissioners of Vital Statistics.

For what purpose?

To ascertain if the applicant is still living.

And if he is?

At the next annual meeting of the Board of Directors, if there is a quorum present, which sometimes happens, he will get a ticket entitling him to admission between the hours of two and three on a specified day.

But if the poor applicant is busy on that day at that hour?

He forfeits his ticket.

But how is the public benefited by the "public" library?

Ask the Trustees.

PHILADELPHIA.—Mr. Lloyd P. Smith, Librarian of the Library Company and Loganian Library, read a paper on "The Early Efforts to establish a Public Library in Philadelphia" before the Philadelphia Social Science Association on Jan. 24. He urged the necessity for a really great public library in the city, and proposed to appeal to the liberality of the rich men of the city, and remind them of what had been done there a hundred years ago towards the establishment of libraries open to all.

WASHINGTON.—It is reported that the Senate has passed a Bill appropriating $500,000 to begin the erection of the new building for the National Library, which is estimated to cost six times that sum. According to the *Library Journal*, a movement has also been set on foot for the establishment of a Free Public Library at Washington.

Mr. Leypoldt, the publisher of the *Library Journal*, announces that it has been decided to transfer from the *Library Journal* to the *Literary News* the departments of "Literature for the Young" and "The Library Purchase List," which have for some time been features of the former journal. The *Literary News* will, however, be furnished as a supplement to the subscribers to the *Library Journal* without any extra charge.

Library Catalogues and Reports.

Corporation of Birmingham. Free Libraries. Reference Department. Catalogue of Books. Letter "A" only. Birmingham, 1883. 8vo, pp. 98.

A Dictionary Catalogue representing nearly ten thousand volumes, and including such important entries as Africa (185 vols.); Agriculture (332 vols.); America (1,570 vols.); Archæology (291 vols.); Architecture (593 vols.); Artists, Art and Arts (2,187 vols.); Astronomy (195 vols.); and Australia (434 vols.). The contents of important collections, such as the Archæologia, are set out. The titles are compressed into a single line by the ingenious use where required of a much smaller type, which gives much information without disfiguring the page, and the main entries are thus kept clear and legible while space is greatly economized.

Handbook for readers in the Boston Public Library. . . . New edition. Boston: Printed by order of the Trustees, 1883. 8vo, pp. 152.

This hand-book contains the regulations of the Library with an account of the catalogues, and he must be a dull reader indeed who fails to find what he wants with the assistance here furnished to him. There is also included in this handy little volume an index to notes about books (which appears in the autumn number of the *Bulletin*), indexes to periodicals, a selected list of encyclopædias, a catalogue of books about patents, general information, chronology and growth of the library, and the works of art in it, and lastly, "cautions, &c."

City of Boston [U.S.A.]. Thirty-first Annual Report of the Trustees of the Public Library, 1883. [Dated June 29, 1883]. 8vo, pp. 76.

The Trustees report that the aggregate number of volumes embraced in the Bates Hall collection is 267,216; in the Lower Hall, 38,164; in the branches, 116,736, making a total of 422,116, a net increase for the year of 17,895 volumes (of which 5,340 were gifts), making the percentage of gain within a slight fraction 4·25 per cent. The total use of books for the year was 1,045,902, an increase of 5,349 over the previous year. The delivery of periodicals at the central library and branches is recorded at 518,226, as against 492,090 for the previous year. Of these, 381,810 found use in the Boylston-street reading-room. The number of books lost was larger than in the previous year having reached a total of 80, or one to every 13,074 issued. At three of the branches, however, with an aggregate circulation of 237,380 volumes, every book had been returned. A site in St. James Street has been purchased for the new library for 180,000 dol., and 450,000 dol. has been assigned for the building; these sums being raised by a public loan. The City appropriations amounted to 116,000 dol. the expenditure to 124,977 dol. 54 cents. The report of the Examining Committee is appended, and also reports from Mr. T. W. Higginson on the Parker library, from Mr. T. S. Perry on French literature in the public library, from Mr. W. F. Apthorp on the musical department, and from the librarian, the latter followed by twenty-three appendices.

Borough of Doncaster. Fourteenth Annual Report of the Borough Free Library Committee, 1883. Presented to the Mayor and Town Council, January 1st, 1884. Doncaster. 8vo, pp. 13.

The issues from the lending library have been 56,535, being an increase of 4,020 on the previous year, and of this total 43,986 are classed as fiction. 1,131 volumes have been added during the year—361 by donation and 771 by purchase. The want of more space is much felt. The rate produced £383, and the year closed with a balance of £292. 1s. 8d. in hand.

Dundee Free Library. Report of the Free Library Committee to the Town Council of Dundee. November, 1883. 8vo, pp. 25.

The total number of issues from this library was 236,183 volumes, of which 184,088 were from the lending department, and 52,095 from the reference department. The Committee point out the large decrease in the issue of books read for amusement, Class K (fiction) having decreased over 7,000 volumes, whilst there has been an increase, amounting to about 5 per cent. on the total issue, in the issue of books in the higher branches of literature. The percentage of novels, &c., is as low as 49·224, and, while each volume in that class has been issued on an average 10·654 times in the twelve months, in Class H (science and the arts)

each volume has been issued 13·459 times out of a total average of 6·033 times for each volume in the lending department. In the reference department we find Class H heads the list of percentage of total issues at 48·475, and the average issue of each volume of that class is as high as 33·315 times out of a total average for that department of 5·194 times for each volume during the year. The annual average of volumes issued from both departments to each borrower is 34·052. Nearly 1,000 volumes of soiled and worn-out books have been withdrawn during the year, and the Committee have sought to impress upon readers the necessity of greater care and cleanliness in the use of the books as, from the nature of the local staple trade, in which oil is so plentifully used, careless handling of the volumes is a more serious evil in Dundee than in most other towns, and has a very prejudicial effect in deterring many from becoming readers. A larger number of books were received from the Subscription Library and the University Club, and the library was enriched by Dr. Baxter's bequest of his valuable library of 2,700 volumes, in addition to a legacy of £500 under the same gentleman's will. The total number of books in the library is now 40,544 volumes, an increase of over 16,000 in ten years, the reference library having risen from 3,480 to 10,029 in that time.

Leeds. Thirteenth Annual Report of the Leeds (Free) Public Library, 1882-3 . . . . [Dated, 12th October, 1883.] Leeds, 1883. 8vo, pp. 24.

Mr. Yates reports issues of 590,601 volumes from the Central Lending Library and branches, being a decrease of upwards of 22,000 on the previous year. This is accounted for by inadequate accommodation at the Central Lending Library, the withdrawal of about 2,200 worn-out volumes from circulation, and the substitution of three-volume novels by those in one-volume form. In the reference library the issues were 73,833 volumes, being an increase of 2,416 volumes upon the previous year. A removal to the Free Public Library in the municipal offices, where adequate accommodation will be provided for the reading public, is anticipated to take place during the spring of the present year. Among the donations, one of 81 volumes and 38 pamphlets on the game of chess from Mr. J. Rhodes may be noted. The total number of volumes in the Central Library and its branches is 120,629. The usual tables giving details of the issues, stock, and finances, prepared with Mr. Yates' customary care and elaboration, are appended.

Liverpool. Thirty-first Annual Report of the Committee of the Free Public Library, Museum, and Walker Art Gallery of the City of Liverpool. Liverpool, 1884. 8vo, pp. 32.

The rooms having been closed for cleaning during an entire month the returns have been necessarily diminished, but the average during the open period considerably exceeds that of any former year. The total number of volumes, excluding magazines and unbound periodicals, issued from the reference library was 466,419, being a daily average of 1,821 ; of these 185,755, against 205,930 in the previous year, found use in the Picton Reading Room ; and in the Brown Reading Room 280,664 volumes were issued, against 297,418 last year. 2,662 volumes were added, making the total number in the library 79,924. The total issues from the two lending libraries were 378,812, against 393,891 last year, of which 285,967 are classed as prose fiction. The stock in the lending libraries now stands at 45,357. A third volume of the catalogue, comprising all the additions during the last three years, will shortly be issued. Special reference is made in the report to the visit of the Library Association to Liverpool in the past year.

Manchester. Thirty-first Annual Report to the Council of the City of Manchester on the working of the Public Free Libraries, 1882-3. [Dated 24th October, 1883.] Manchester, 1883. 8vo, pp. 26.

During the past year over 2,300,000 visits are reported to have been made by the public to the various libraries and newsrooms, and 1,191,588 volumes have been used, either for perusal at home or in the reading rooms. Of this total 252,648 were used in the reference library, and 938,940 in the six branch libraries. The reference library figures show an increase of more than 40,000 volumes, and the branch libraries' issues have increased 83,282 volumes over last year. There has again been an increase in the number of visits paid on Sundays, the total having been 215,000, or an average of 4,200 each Sunday. The special reading rooms for boys, of which there are now four, are stated to be well used and continue to grow in popularity. 8,730 volumes have been added to the stock, which now stands in the reference library at 73,308 volumes, and in the branches at 94,194 volumes. The usual statistical tables are appended.

Record of Bibliography.

A Bibliography of Electricity and Magnetism, 1860 to 1883. With special reference to Electro-technics, compiled by G. May. With an index by O. Salle, Ph.D. London; Trübner and Co. 1884. 8vo, pp. viii, 203, price 5s.

A useful list of the more important literature of the subject, especially in its practica aspects. The appendix contains a list of periodical publications. The index of subjects is awkwardly arranged under the various languages in which the books are written, and having been printed from the plates of the original German edition, has the further drawback of requiring a knowledge of German before it can be satisfactorily consulted.

General Index to the Latin Names and Synonyms of the Plants depicted in the first hundred and seven volumes of Curtis's Botanical Magazine, to which is added a short list of popular names, edited by Edmund Tonks, B.C.L. London: B. Quaritch [Birmingham: printed], 1883. Roy. 8vo, pp. vii, 263.

This is an interesting, and we are sure an extremely useful publication. Mr. Tonks's preface contains some pertinent remarks on the necessity of searching through three or four indexes and a large number of single volumes, in order to obtain the information required by anyone wishing to consult the magazine, and on the illiberality of its present publisher in declining to print such a general index when the MS. was offered to him by Mr. Henry Buckley. The Editor continues "the general index of Latin names is printed from Mr. Buckley's MS.; to this . . . I have added an index of Synonyms, compiled by my daughters, and a short list of Popular names." Mr. Tonks has tried in the first index to introduce correctness and uniformity into the form of the names. The index is printed in double columns, and on one side of the paper so as to enable those who are inclined to do so to make their own additions and to keep the indexes posted up.

The Publishers' Trade List Annual, 1883. Eleventh year. New York: F. Leypoldt, September, 1883. Roy. 8vo, pp. xli, 201, +.

A bulky volume of nearly 3,000 pages, the body of which consists of a number of publishers' and manufacturers' catalogues alphabetically arranged, as in the English Reference Catalogue. These are preceded by (1) an Index to Contributors and Advertisers; (2) an Index to Special Lines; (3) The Annual Record of Books, being a complete reprint of the Publisher's Weekly full-title records from July 8, 1882 to June 30, 1883, together with the descriptive notes and a complete index; (4) The American Educational Catalogue for 1883 with a classified subject-index. Altogether this stout volume is a wonderful mirror of the extensive publishing trade of our American cousins.

Reading Notes on Luther. Prepared by John Edmands. Philadelphia, 1883. Sm. 8vo, pp. 18 and wrapper.

This interesting little pamphlet contains a list of notes and references to books and essays relating to Luther and the Reformation, which have been put together by the Librarian of the Philadelphia Mercantile Library, and has been reprinted from the Bulletin of the Library. The references are only to such works as are in the library. Mr. Edmands says that "free use has been made of Poole's Index and of materials in various library catalogues."

Q. P. Indexes, No. XIII. An Index to Articles relating to History, Biografy, Literature, Society and Travel, contained in Collections of Essays, &c. By W. M. Griswold, A.B. (Harvard) Assistant Librarian in the Library of Congress. Bangor, U.S.A. Q. P. Index, Publisher, 1883. 8vo, pp. 56.

Mr. Griswold has here attempted a piece of work, the desirability of which was urged for the first time, so far as we are aware, at the Oxford meeting of the Library Association in 1878. In the pamphlet before us are indexed 799 volumes of English, French and German "collectaneous" literature, and the compiler promises an enlarged edition if the present issue is favourably received. As our readers may be aware, the American Library Association propose to form a complete index by co-operation. Mr. Griswold's plan seems to us to place economy of paper above economy of time. The volumes indexed are first arranged as far as possible alphabetically and numbered, and the references in the index are by these numbers. The result is that Dante, *e.g.*, is followed by nearly twenty references to the numbers in the key, which must all be looked up to find the *names* of the authors referred to. One curious mistake we notice which European co-operation would have prevented. Under the name of "Salisbury, Marquis," we find entered a volume of "Historical Sketches," published by his *deceased elder brother*, when Lord Cranborne.

Q. P. Indexes, No. XIV. Table alfabetique générale des matières et des noms des auteurs contenus dans les tomes 193-268 de la Revue des Deux Mondes et 1-21 de la Nouvelle Revue; par W. M. Griswold, sous-bibliothécaire à la Bibl. Nat. des États-Unis. Bangor, États-Unis, 1883. 8vo, pp. 25.

A useful addition to the valuable series of the Q. P. Indexes. The index to the *Revue des Deux Mondes* is supplementary to the octavo Table générale published in 1874. The *Nouvelle Revue* has taken so distinguished a place among reviews, that an index to its first twenty-one volumes will be helpful in libraries which possess the series.

Jules Janin: par Alexandre Piedagnel. Troisième édition. Avec une Bibliographie un portrait à l'eauforte, par Boilvin, et un fac-simile d'autographe. Paris: Fischbacher, 1884. 8vo, pp. iv, 173-8. Price 5 fr.

A beautifully printed little volume of reminiscences of the 'Prince de la Critique,' by his secretary. It was originally published not long after his death in 1874, and reached an early second edition in 1876, when the writer added a chapter on Jules Janin's splendid library and a bibliography of his writings. In the present edition, the bibliography occupies pp. 147-168. It is followed by a list of publications to which Janin contributed, and of portraits of him.

The Executive Committee of the German Booksellers' Börsen-Verein announce that an International Exhibition of recent productions of the Book-trade and allied industries will be held at Leipzig, May 10th to 21st. The Committee hope that Publishers and others in all Countries will take part in this Exhibition. It is proposed to issue a catalogue of the articles displayed printed as a *publication de luxe.* The agent for England is Mr. H. Grevel, 33, King Street, Covent Garden, to whom all communications should be addressed as soon as possible, the latest date for communications as to articles intended for exhibition being the 19th of April.

The famous library of rare books in fine condition, collected by the late Mr. Henry Huth, will shortly find new and suitable accommodation in the house which his son, Mr. A. H. Huth is now building at South Kensington.

Notes and Queries.

G. G. Bennis. Can anyone tell me anything about a legacy left by a somewhat obscure writer of the name of George Geary Bennis, who died at Paris in 1866, consisting of 10,000 volumes, which he is said to have left to found a free library at Limerick his native place? A.

Library Statistics. *The Pall Mall Gazette*, of Jan. 21 (page 3), states that there were last year no fewer than 30,000 school libraries in France, besides 4,000 "free public libraries," of which excellent use is being made. Of what character and what extent are these "4000" free libraries? S.

Authorship. Who wrote the following books?:—King Cop; Lord Lynn's Choice; Love that Kills; Love's Warfare; Mountains and Mountain Climbing; My Marriage; Three in Norway, by "two of them"; Onesimus; Our Little Life; Peasant Life in Glenaldie; Rose in Thorns; Rose of the World; Underground Russia; First Ten Years of a Sailor's Life; Sister's Sacrifice, and other Tales; Skeleton on the Hearth; Stronbury; Sworn Foes; Which Loves Him Best; and Willis the Pilot. A. Z.

Who is "John Oldcastle," the author of *Journals and Journalism*, 1880? J. O.

Note.

The "Cecil Laker" of periodical literature is Mrs. Harriette S. Bainbridge, *née* Smith, and resides at Stockport. She issued *Irene Floss and other poems* in 1878. J. P. B.

Printed and published for the Library Association of the United Kingdom by J. Davy & Sons, *at the Dryden Press*, 137, *Long Acre, London. Annual Subscription, post free*, 6*s*.

The Library Chronicle.

CHARLES NODIER.

By Robert Harrison.

I VENTURE to suggest to the Members of our Association that some advantage may be derived from a study of the career of one or more of the eminent book collectors, whether English or foreign, whose names are continually met with in bibliographical literature. The names of Bodley, Cotton and Harley will at once occur to the mind as founders of great libraries in a by-gone age. The names of Richard Heber, Mr. Hibbert, Mr. Dent and Sir Egerton Brydges stand out prominently in the crowd of modern collectors at home, while abroad we find continual reference made to the collections of Count Hoym, Crevenna, Pinelli, La Valliere, Mac Carthy and Charles Nodier. The last-named collector, bibliographer and critic is the subject I have chosen for the present paper. Perhaps no man ever suffered more from the contradictions of praise and blame than Charles Nodier. In life he was the centre of a literary circle that almost worshipped him. After death his name and fame were subject to cruelly severe assaults. It is just forty years ago that he died. I was living in Paris at the time, and quitted it before the chorus of praise that echoed over his tomb had died away. His name still conjured up the image of an accomplished Frenchman, full of grace and kindness, a perfect master of his native tongue, full of information on every topic, witty in conversation, incisive in his style of writing, yet never giving pain to any one by an ill-natured remark. When, as a critic, he was bound to condemn, his habit was like that of Addison, "to damn with faint praise."

Again, he was not one of those gloomy mortals who disdain everything but matters of fact. He was a man of very lively imagination, so much so, indeed, that in a book of reminiscences which he published when fifty years old, he describes his confidential relations with General Pichegru as secretary, at a time when he could only have been a boy of eleven or twelve years of age. To this circumstance is due some degree of uncertainty as to the date of his birth. Most of the authorities give it as the year 1783, while he himself told Sainte-Beuve or another of his friends that it was 1780. This, say his assailants, was one of his little frauds intended to make his *Souvenirs* more probable on the score of age. He was born at Besançon, the son of a lawyer, who, as a matter of self-defence, became president of a revolutionary tribunal and had to

condemn a great many people to death. Charles, in the ardour of youth, was naturally disposed to favour the weaker side. "Always take the part of the conquered" he used to say in after life, "they are almost always likely to be in the right." M. Francis Wey tells this romantic story of Nodier as a boy. During the Reign of Terror an elderly lady named Olivet was accused of sending money to assist a relative who had emigrated with other royalists. The crime was punishable with death, and Charles frantically implored his father not to condemn the old lady, but implored in vain. Hereupon the boy, assuming a very determined air, exclaimed: "Well, sacrifice this victim to her country; I will offer another victim to gratitude and friendship. If Madame Olivet be condemned I swear that I will drive this dagger that you see into my own heart." The next morning, when the judge went into court to fulfil his duty, he perceived his son, who had been absent from home all night, standing among the spectators, haggard and woe-begone, but with a resolute countenance, and holding something concealed in his breast. The father's courage faltered and Madame Olivet was not condemned. This story may seem an exaggerated version of some less tragical incident in the boy's life, but who can say how near it may be to the truth when the intense exaltation of feeling in those terrible days of the first French Revolution is remembered. Nodier's vocation as a man of letters declared itself early in life. He became journalist, novelist, critic and librarian in regular succession. These various yet kindred occupations enabled him to accumulate a vast fund of miscellaneous knowledge, to which his friends and acquaintance were always glad to have recourse, and seldom in vain. His passion for books was very strong. Twice he formed a library of rare books which were sold off, but only to enable him to begin again and make a third collection. His *Description raisonnée d'une jolie Collection de Livres*, published soon after his death in 1844, is an account of his library, to which I shall refer again presently. For twenty years he was librarian at the Arsenal, where is a collection of books very rich in old Italian literature. On these he feasted royally and made his rooms at the Library a centre of great literary interest. Sundays at the Arsenal became famous. There were to be seen as regular visitors Victor Hugo, Alfred de Musset, Sainte-Beuve, Alexandre Dumas, Alfred de Vigny and other rising men of letters. They were all great innovators on the ancient traditions of French classical literature, and formed a school of so-called Romanticists which, during the last fifty years, has brought about a striking change in the tone of French thought. It is worthy of note that this new school should, in a sense, take its rise in the home of Charles Nodier, who was himself one of the last samples of the careful and polished French writers who had done so much for literature in the previous century and a half.

Nodier's political sympathies were with the Royalists and strongly against the Bonapartes. He called the first Napoleon "that son of the Revolution who slew his mother," and when in 1815 there was some hesitation about taking back Louis XVIII. because he was not a soldier, he said "if we must have a king on horseback, I vote for Franconi" (the celebrated circus rider).

The side of Nodier's character, however, which has most attraction for us was his intense love for old books, tall copies in fine bindings with rough edges and all the other charms which fascinate the true bibliomaniac. He made a daily practice of visiting his favourite bookshops to examine the newly arrived treasures. It was a thing not easily to be forgotten to see the thin long face of the feeble valetudinarian light up with joy when he was handling a fine Maioli or Grolier, or a Diane de Poitiers.

How lovingly he writes of the books in his own collection—"Delicious copy"—"Superb copy of a rare and beautiful edition"—"Magnificent copy bound by Bauzonnet." Phrases like these follow nearly every title in his catalogue. Many of his notes are very instructive; others quaint and amusing. He had a large paper copy of *The Tale of a Tub*, translated into French, 2 vol., 12mo, *La Haye*, 1721. He adds to the description the words, "Rare in this state. Swift was a good deal read in his time, and I see no reason why he should not be so still. If the book were less common every amateur would wish to have it; it is neglected because it is easy to find, yet there is many a book that collectors covet which contains not a quarter of the wit and malice to be found in this one." His observations on the works of Bruscambille afford, perhaps, the best apology that can be made for collectors of a class of books commonly called *Facetiæ*.

"Bruscambille and Tabourin," he says, "have long enjoyed great popularity, and the works of these two buffoons have often been reprinted. Yet copies of them are now rare, and, if it were not for certain amateurs who save a small number from the destruction which threatens and often befals books of this kind, we should scarcely know that these amusers of the populace had ever existed. That, doubtless, would be a misfortune which not many people would deplore; but for those who think that the spirit of a whole nation is not comprised in the few yards of a few drawing-rooms it is not altogether a matter of indifference to know how the inferior classes amused themselves at the beginning of the XVIIth century, and what nourishment it was that kept up that French gaiety which was then proverbial, albeit that now it has gone out of fashion or displays itself in a way that is totally different."

Two more extracts and I shall have done with the "Descriptive Catalogue of a pretty Collection of Books." After a detailed description of a volume of Tracts, dated 1586, which express regret in various forms for the death of John Edward du Monin, a poet and philosopher of that time, there follows this remark: "John Edward du Monin, whom I cherish as a fellow-countryman, whom I honour as a man of learning, but whose verses I could not read ten consecutive lines of, was assassinated in Paris the 5th Nov. 1586, at the age of 29. The elegiac pieces of which this volume is composed must have been very difficult to get together."

The poetical works of one *David Rigaud* having been described as published at Lyons in 1653, a small octavo, and as being bound by Koehler in red morocco, the following ray of light is thrown upon the career of the obscure author: "David Rigaud was a poor draper in the town of Crest, who had some talent for poetry, but who does not seem to have got more fortune out of it than he did renown. He would be very much astonished at the ardour with which certain amateurs hunt for his books since it has become, fortunately, the fashion to form libraries of provincial publications. This book of Rigaud's is one of the rarest volumes in the library of works published in Dauphiné."

So far I have endeavoured to give the brighter side of Charles Nodier's character and career. But to every man's shield there is a reverse, coloured in darker shades. This shady region of Nodier's career arose out of a defect in circumstances not, I fear, uncommon among Librarians, namely, his impecuniosity. Having at the same time expensive tastes, especially being very fond of fine morocco bindings of his favourite books done by the best Parisian binders, he did not disdain a certain amount of traffic on his reputation, and to let out his name to books in the writing or compilation of

which he had no part. Quérard, in his *Supercheries Littéraires*, or Literary Frauds, gives a catalogue of twelve books bearing Nodier's name, which yet were written by other people. Quérard's scarifying knife is applied to *le bon Nodier*, as he sneeringly calls him, with an animus that can only be explained by a story he frankly tells himself of how Nodier once persuaded Weiss, an intimate friend of his, to make Quérard pay money for work on *La France Littéraire* that Weiss had previously been doing gratis. Quérard goes out of his way to convict Nodier of meanness in his mode of getting money. He writes, says Quérard, to the King's minister for funds to pay the cost of a journey to Tartary, receives the money, but never starts on the journey. He becomes a pensioner on the civil list of Louis XVIII. and of Charles X. On the fall of the latter Nodier found himself without funds, and, to raise the supplies, he is charged with signing a bill for 3,000fr., which he had no prospect of paying and which was ultimately paid out of good nature by the bank (Lafitte's) where it had been formally made payable. These things are hard to believe of a man who must have often soared into the higher regions of thought, and I, myself, am disposed to discount M. Quérard's statements pretty largely, especially when he goes on to say that Nodier was a false *bonhomme*, that he made a trade of the literary priesthood, and that his device should have been "Everything for and by money." That he was a man who might have done more for posterity, had circumstances allowed him to think less of the present, is a dictum that I will not dispute.

After the severe judgment of Quérard it is interesting to read the remarks made by Brunet upon Nodier (*Manuel du Libraire*, vol. 4, p. 90):—"The superiority of his mind, the originality of his ideas, and especially the beauty of his style place him, in our literature, in the front rank of the men of eminence of his time. He did not disdain to give to bibliography some of his leisure moments. He was barely eighteen years old when he published a *Bibliographie Entomologique* (Paris: Montardier, An ix., 1801), 18mo, in viii. and 64 pp., an essay which shows that the young author was no stranger either to bibliography or natural history. Later on he put his hand to a *Bibliotheca Sacra*, dedicated to the King (Paris: Thoisnier-Desplaces, 1826). Of this work only one volume, octavo, appeared, of which the only distinguishing mark consists in the style of Nodier's notes and his ingenious conjectures. A great advance upon these two works will be found in the *Mélanges tirés d'une petite bibliothèque* (Paris: Crapelet, 1829), 8vo. This is a book that stands by itself, and which it would be absurd to judge by severe rules of criticism; for in fact it is not a bibliographical compilation, the merit of which consists in the accuracy of details, but the production of a brilliant and enthusiastic book-lover, who contemplates some of his pretty treasures, which have no intrinsic value, through the deceptive prism of a bold and lively imagination. He discovers charms and perfections in the volumes he likes best, which assuredly no one else could find. We will not enquire whether or no the observations imparted to us are exact, but must say that they are very ingenious and especially that they are expressed with a charm of style and felicity of language which are the seal of this writer's unquestionable talent."

The "Description of a pretty Collection," from which we have quoted above, was a sequel to the *Mélanges* and was in the press when Nodier died. M. G. Duplessis read the last proofs and added a few notes, while Francis Wey wrote the memoir which is prefixed to the description. There was also a Sale Catalogue of this collection put up to auction in 1844 after Nodier's death.

Two charming notices of Nodier by Sainte-Beuve will be found in *La Revue des Deux Mondes* (1 Mai 1840, 1 Fevrier 1844). Madame Mennessier-Nodier, daughter of Charles, published in 1867 a small octavo volume, entitled *Charles Nodier, épisodes et souvenirs de sa vie* (Paris: Didier), in which she endeavours to rebut the insinuation that in all his writings he was an extravagant romancer. It is not a very lucid or consecutive account of the man or of his works, but it is, nevertheless, an interesting contribution to literary history. Some notice must be taken of Nodier's "Questions concerning the Laws of Literature: plagiarism, pretended authorship, and frauds connected with the publishing of books." The first edition was dedicated to M. C. Weiss in 1811, and published in 1812; the second was published by Crapelet, of Paris, in 1828. It is preceded by a table of authors and books quoted, numbering very nearly 500. The book consists of only 228 octavo pages, and includes parallel passages from authors which serve to show the debt one owes to the other, beginning with a long passage from Voltaire's *Zadig*, placed side by side with a prose translation of the English poem by Parnell, called "The Hermit." The London Library copy of this work is bound up with Nodier's *Dictionnaire raisonné des Onomatopées Françaises* (Paris: Demouville, 1808), a book that was of great service to Nodier in early life. Being suspected of conspiring with Royalists at Besançon his papers were seized by the authorities, and, though he managed to escape into the mountains, he might have been outlawed had not the Préfet, M. de Bry, discovered in the *MS.* of this book the innocent character of Charles's occupations. He recalled the young man to his home and became his life-long friend. The introduction which Nodier wrote for the *Théâtre choisi de Guilbert de Pixérécourt* is essentially bibliographical, as is also his introduction to *De Gaulle, nouvelle Histoire de Paris et de ses environs* (Paris: Pourrat, 1839-40), 4 vols., 8vo. It remains to mention two anti-Bonaparte works, namely, *La Napoleone* (Paris: Charles), for which the author was put in prison and afterwards sent home to Besançon; and *L'Histoire des Sociétés secrètes de l'armée et des conspirations militaires qui ont eu pour objet la destruction du gouvernement de Bonaparte* (Londres: Longmans, 1815). It includes the ode, *La Napoleone*, but the facts narrated are counted by many as apocryphal. Quérard devotes to Nodier seven pages of *La France Littéraire* and more than three pages of *La Littérature Française Contemporaine*. A collected edition of *Nodier's Œuvres*, 12 vols., 8vo, Paris, Renduel, was published in 1832-34. A pseudonym sometimes adopted by Nodier was Dr. Néophobus.

"OUR NEWSROOMS."

By J. D. Mullins.

A great deal has been written and said, and not a word too much, about our Free Libraries at Birmingham, and how proud the people are of them, and how they take all their visitors to see them; but hardly sufficient notice has been taken of "Our Newsrooms." That nearly ten thousand men should use these rooms day by day, with perfect order and evident pleasure, is quite as worthy of remark, in its way, as the good use which is made of the books in the library. At nine o'clock in the morning there is always a little crowd of men waiting for the Newsrooms to open; no mere idlers wanting to kill time, but mainly men "out of employment," clean, smart, active fellows

"wanting work." We are told by one who went in with the group at the Central Newsrooms one morning a little time since, when there had been some very exciting events on the previous day, that he expected to find a great rush for the news columns of the papers, and was surprised and something more than surprised to find that not a man of the group touched the news, but all went straight to the advertisement columns to see the "wanteds" that would meet their wants, and the pencil and paper soon at work jotting down the chance of a "job" in this paper and that, the Bristol, or the Liverpool, or the Birmingham papers as the case might be. Anyone in the habit of using the newsroom, and using his eyes and with a mind to use, may be pardoned if he soon grows interested in his fellow-visitors, and gets to know the look of disappointment as one scans all the advertisements in vain, the painfullest look that ever comes upon the face of men, the look that is strained with weary looking in vain for work. One shrinks from saying all one has seen of hope deferred and saddest despair in some, and would rather tell of what one has seen of work gained, and the brightened face and quickened step, and new life again, and all this may be seen and known without a word passing between the man who sees and the man who is seen.

It will be quite fair to call these remarks sentimental, but who can see the tide of human life ebb and flow, and watch all it carries, and not sometimes give way to sentiment? Then there are the three or four tables allotted to "ladies," for whom any paper or periodical they require is brought by the attendants—a far better plan it seems to us than putting the "ladies" into a room by themselves with a limited supply of "suitable papers." All that there is in the vast room is at their demand or request, and their presence in the room is pleasant and decidedly civilising in its tendency, and no rudeness or slightest discourtesy has ever been shown to them by any of the thousands of men of all classes who use the place. Here the governess or saleswoman, or anyone seeking employment, comes and quietly jots down what may be of service to them.

And this is only describing one half-hour of the day, the first half-hour; later on come a miscellaneous crowd more difficult to describe, elderly folk past work but not past wanting to know "how the world goes," ailing folk too weak to work just yet, and lightening the hours of waiting by a look at—not the "Battle of the Books" but the "Battle of the Newspapers." And why should not the Battle of the Newspapers be written in Homeric verse? Here waiting for the fray lie the *Alliance News* and the *Brewers' Guardian*, the *Jewish World* and the *Christian Million*, the *Electrical Review*, pale with rage, and the *Gas Lighting Journal*, ruddy with indignation. *Iron* looks down upon the *Draper;* the *National Reformer* and the *Saints' Herald;* the *Era* (Theatrical) and the *Guardian* (Ecclesiastical), the *Field* and the *Gardener's Chronicle*, and the *Mining Journal*, the *Railway Times*, and the *Rock* are amazed to find themselves together, and nothing serious happening as the result. The Australian, American, Cape Colony, and Canadian newspapers look down from the desks on the walls on the more than two hundred and fifty British newspapers and periodicals lying scattered over the tables. Papers from great centres, the *Scotsman*, the *Dublin Freeman*, the *Liverpool Daily Post*, the *Bristol Times* mingled condescendingly with the papers from smaller places, the *Bromsgrove Guardian*, *Evesham Journal*, *Kidderminster Times*, *Witney Express*, whilst the wall near the door is graced with the leading London dailies, the *Times*, *Standard*, *Daily Telegraph*, &c.

There is no place much more wholesome and educative in the best sense of the

word than a good general newsroom. Turn Mr. "All-on-one-side" loose here and let him wander among the papers, Liberal and Conservative, Jewish and Christian, Catholic and Protestant, High Church and Low Church, Conformist and Nonconformist, American and English, Scientific, Pictorial, Mechanical, and Commercial; and if he is not straightened into a sense of how much there is to know, and how much he has to learn, then he is indeed a heavy man. Nor is mere pastime or pleasure all that is gained. The newspaper is, to a much larger extent than appears, a teacher of political economy; the professed study of this subject through the ordinary text-books is by no means popular, the books in this section of the library have but a very limited circulation, so that whatever education is being given on the important subject of political economy is largely derived, such as it is, from newspapers. How disgusted one elderly gentleman became the other day on finding that for nearly half an hour he had been reading the wrong newspaper, and had got all his settled ideas of right and wrong rudely upset, his liver disturbed, and apoplexy made imminent by an eloquent leader on the wrong side—that is the other side, not his side. With the constant traffic and passing to and fro, and on a boarded floor the room is not perhaps as quiet as a fastidious ear could desire, but the guardian angel (in uniform) evidently tries to keep the room as quiet as he can by politely informing gentlemen who form groups for gossip that "no conversation is allowed." This is of the utmost importance, as conversation would soon become much too general if permitted, and lead to arguments more vigorous than agreeable. Then if in the morning we see the men who are out of work, the men who are past work, and those who are not able to work, at "dinner-time" there is quite a rush of the men who "are at work." Somehow they run in and spend a good part of the dinner-hour here. At four there is another rush for the evening papers, and at night when work is done every seat is occupied, and there are few more pleasant sights in Birmingham than "Our Newsrooms."

AMERICAN LIBRARIANS IN CONGRESS.[1]

By C. W. Sutton.

The aggressive "missionary" character of the American librarian is shown in every page of this interesting volume. The librarian of the New World is determined to be no mere book-*keeper*. He evinces a restless impatience to liberate his books from the shelves, and it annoys him to think they should have any *resting* place. The whole duty of his books is to be read, and, to get them well used, he provides guides, finding-lists, bibliographies, indexes, bulletins, and all manner of aids. He sends lists of his additions to the newspapers, or prints the titles on post-cards to be forwarded to the "patrons" or users of the library. He invites the people to come and question him about what they should read, and calls upon the schoolmaster to help him to direct the rising generation what they ought to read and how they should do it. He forms

[1] Papers and Proceedings of the Sixth General Meeting of the American Library Association, held at Buffalo, August 14 to 17, 1883. Boston: Press of Rockwell and Churchill, 39, Arch Street, 1883. 4to, pp. 143.

classes, organises lectures, and makes special lists for this object, and in short sets up as a teacher of morals and director of studies. There seem to be good grounds for this claim, and such an office will be justified so long as the unregenerate choose the worse way and persist in reading trashy novels, or newspapers, or nothing at all.

The Conference at Buffalo shows that the typical American librarian is not satisfied with anything short of thoroughness. He wants better methods and greater results, and, being eminently practical, it is evident that he will attain them. Nothing is more interesting than the co-operative spirit which animates these annual meetings. Each member seems eager to engage in work for the common good.

The most striking Paper read at the Conference is that by Mr. C. A. Cutter on the "Buffalo Public Library in 1983," in which he describes an ideal city library—an isolated building, with its compact masses of shelving, each stack lighted by electricity; reading-rooms on each floor with perfect automatic ventilation; a librarian for each great subject; noiseless attendants; telephonic communication with every other library in the country, and means of communicating the contents of books telephonically; hydraulic hoists, worked by power brought by wire from the Niagara Falls; photographic cataloguing; listening rooms where phonographic editions of the best books are read by machines to crowded audiences, classes for teaching children the use of books, &c. Mr. Cutter's address is full of suggestive details told in an admirable manner, and we may well hope with his audience that some at least of his suggestions may be accomplished before the lapse of a century.

Many of the papers take the form of annual reports on specific branches of practical library economy. Mr. S. B. Noyes gives a most careful review of the principal catalogues published during the year, dealing at length with the catalogue of the Peabody Institute at Baltimore. The fault he finds with that important work is surplusage. Parodying Spenser he says to the cataloguer, "Be full, be full, and everywhere be full, —but not too full."

Mr. J. Edmands reports on Library Architecture. The English libraries of Newcastle-on-Tyne and Birmingham are mentioned in detail, and the vexed question of the Washington Congress Library is again discussed. One cannot help regretting that it has not been found practicable to furnish plans of the libraries mentioned. A report on Fiction in Public Libraries is presented by Mr. Mellen Chamberlain, who sees, as regards public libraries, "no immediate prospect of an essential reduction in the amount of fiction they will require, nor of the adoption of any standard in respect to the quality of this fiction which will reach much above the average moral sense of the communities in which such libraries are established." Miss Mary A. Bean has an admirable report on the Reading of the Young, containing some suggestions of value on co-operation between school and library. In summing up the returns obtained from various libraries she says it is agreed that children read too much, and that it is largely the fault of their elders; greater care ought to be exercised in the selection and purchase of books for their use and the utmost care in the guidance of their choice of reading matter; the crusade should be carried on by wisely substituting the better books which are being written for young people for the sensational variety; a happy combination of school and library influences may do much to rectify the baleful influences of aimless reading by teaching children what and how to read. Further practical remarks on this subject are made by Mr. Samuel S. Green in a report on Libraries and Schools, and by Mr. Poole in the discussion.

A report on Aids and Guides to Readers, from the pen of Mr. William E. Foster, is a valuable supplement to Mr. Green's pamphlet on "Library Aids." Besides enumerating recent bibliographies he reviews improvements which have been made in regard to location and management of space in libraries, appliances, modes of cataloguing, circulation, use of the books, courses of study, lectures, &c. Mr. Foster's paper may be studied with equal profit by librarians in this country as by those of America. Is it too much to hope that so excellent a "reporter" may find an imitator in England? There must be many useful ideas here that want exposition.

Miss Theresa H. West contributes a genial little paper, entitled, "The Usefulness of Libraries in Small Towns." She has words of comfort and encouragement for those whose lot is cast in smaller places, showing the great advantage and pleasure arising from personal intercourse between librarian and reader. She laments that small libraries have to put up with ill-educated assistants, devoid of love for their work. "The remedy for this state of affairs," she says, "is not likely to be found till our boards of trustees take for their careful consideration the reply of a certain irate domestic to her remonstrating mistress: 'You can't expect a good cook and all the Christian virtues for two dollars a week.'"

Mr. James L. Whitney's paper, "A modern Proteus," is a vigorous and richly deserved castigation of those authors and publishers who issue the same book with different titles. It is followed by a long list of books, for the most part of recent date, which although under two or more titles, are wholly or essentially the same.

Dr. J. S. Billings, in a paper on the Washington libraries, discusses the question whether special libraries should be merged in one grand national collection, and concludes that they should remain distinct and under the control of departments. He mentions legal, military, astronomical, meteorological, geological and medical libraries as being at present under the management of separate state bureaus.

Dr. Henry A. Homes, in describing the shelf arrangement of the books in the New York State Library, mentions the curious fact that they are neither numbered nor press marked, but are arranged on the shelves in alphabetical order of authors' names, or, in the case of anonymous books, under the first word of the title. This library is not alone in such an arrangement. Mr. Peoples said the same plan was used at the New York Mercantile Library, "where it works pretty well with 200,000 volumes."

Other papers were read by Mr. Poole, explaining his plan of issuing annual and five-year supplements to Poole's Index; Mr. Cutter, on his arrangement of the parts of the United States, in a historical and geographical system of classification; Mr. Guy A. Brown on State Libraries; and Mr. R. R. Bowker on the work of the Nineteenth Century Librarian for the librarian of the Twentieth, pointing out what we are doing and what we ought to do for our successors. Many of our readers will remember hearing the author read the last-named paper at Cambridge in 1882.

Condensed rules for an author and title catalogue, as prepared by the Co-operation Committee of the American Library Association, are given, and the variations from the English rules are stated in another part of the volume. The new Bodleian rules are printed in full as an appendix.

It is evident from the report of proceedings at the meetings that much cordiality was displayed on all sides and that the commingling of librarians, alluded to by Mr. Winsor in his opening address, was provocative of much kindly interest, wider sympathies and broader views. We may briefly mention some of the more notable subjects discussed,

in addition to those brought forward by the papers already named. The distribution of public documents, which at present gives as little satisfaction in the United States as in England, was matter of debate, which resulted in certain recommendations to government. The American Library Association Catalogue—a model catalogue of books for small libraries—was reported a step nearer completion. Mr. Poole spoke on a project of a general index of essays, to be prepared on the same plan as Poole's Index, but he omitted to mention that Mr. E. C. Thomas had already, at the Oxford meeting of the Library Association in 1878, brought forward a similar scheme. On the question of library assistants the following resolution was passed: "That in the opinion of this association, library assistants and attendants should be selected, as far as possible, by competitive examinations, and that a preference should be given, when practicable, to those possessing a knowledge of more than one language." Mr. Dewey spoke about a "School of Library Economy" that was to be started at Columbia college. The author of the scheme was subjected to one or two streams of cold water, but eventually the "convention" expressed its gratification that the matter was being taken up.

In Memoriam: NICOLAS TRÜBNER.

By William E. A. Axon.

The unexpected death of Mr. Nicolas Trübner will cause universal regret. Few men had a greater circle of friends, few men had wider sympathies. Those who are engaged in the work of literary and historical research alike in England, in the United States, on the Continent, in South America, and in India, will miss in him not only the successful merchant but the sympathetic scholar and the ready friend.* Trübner was a German, and without losing the good qualities of his own nation, had added to them some of the best characteristics of his adopted country. To German earnestness he added English enterprise, and to scholarly tastes and accomplishments those business qualities and powers of organization that are the invariable adjuncts of commercial success.

He was born at Heidelberg in 1817, and was the architect of his own fortune. His father was a gold and silver smith in a modest way of business. Young Nicolas early showed a great fondness for books, but it was impossible with his father's limited means to gratify the boy's desire for a learned career. As he could not be sent to the university of Heidelberg the next best thing was done for him—he was apprenticed to a bookseller. His first master, Mohr, whilst a strict disciplinarian, encouraged the boy's literary tastes. His hours were long, his work was hard, but the shop was a haunt of learned men, and the sharp and studious youth was thus enabled to pick up a great deal of miscellaneous information. In 1839 he formed part of the establishment of Vandenhoeck and Ruprecht at Göttingen, and from thence went to Hoffman and Campe at Hamburg. In 1842 he was with Willmans at Frankfort on

* In this brief biographical note, in addition to the knowledge derived from a friendship of many years' standing, the writer has consulted the obituary memorials in the *Bookseller*, April 5, 1884; the *Kölnische Zeitung*, April 2, 1884; the *Athenæum*, April 5, 1884; and the notice by Prof. A. H. Sayce in the *Academy*, April 5, 1884.

the Rhine, and here he met the late Mr. William Longman, who, recognizing his intelligence and business capacity, offered him a place in the London house of Longmans. He came to England in 1843, and had now to master the details of an entirely different method of business, and he did it; and at the same time kept up his nterest in general scholarship.

His first work was a translation of the "Sketches of Flemish Life" of Hendrik Conscience, which appeared in 1845, and was illustrated. A notice of this, the first volume translated from Flemish into English, will be found in the *Athenæum*, 1846, 372.

Mr. Trübner stayed with the Longmans until 1851, when he invested his earnings in a partnership with Mr. Thomas Delf, who whilst a man of undoubted ability, was wanting in ballast. Trübner had the mortification to see his own efforts wasted and his capital dissipated. In this emergency he found a friend in the late Mr. David Nutt, who joined him on Delf's retirement. Delf had a good knowledge of the American book trade, and it was to this branch that Trübner at the beginning devoted himself. In 1855 he published the first edition of the bibliography by which he is best known

Trübner's Bibliographical Guide to American Literature; being a classified list of books in all departments of Literature and Science published in the United States during the last forty years. London, 1855, 8vo, pp. xxii., 108.

Immediately afterwards he paid a visit to the United States, in which he pleased and was pleased. In 1859 he published an enlarged edition of the above work.

Trübner's Bibliographical Guide to American Literature. A classed list of books published in the United States of America during the last forty years, with Bibliographical Introduction, Notes, and Alphabetical Index. Compiled and edited by Nicolas Trübner. London, 1859, 8vo, pp. cxlix., 554.

The preface, written with Mr. Trübner's characteristic modesty, states that after some years of active work as an American literary agent he found himself, in 1854, in the possession of sufficient materials to be put into a definite form. After four years of additional exertion he submitted this book as "affording a tolerably full and impartial survey of American literary enterprise during the first half of the nineteenth century." He continues:—"My object in attempting an American Bibliographical Guide has been two-fold; on the one hand to suggest the necessity of a more perfect work of its kind by an American, surrounded as he would be with the necessary appliances; and on the other, to supply to Europeans a guide to Anglo-American literature, a branch which, by its rapid rise and increasing importance, begins to force itself more and more on our attention." The scope of his work was necessarily limited. The authors of Colonial America belong to the old country, and the work of nation-making was for a time too absorbing to allow of much attention to literature. Hence the conclusion that Trübner arrived at was probably a just one, that "it was not until the year 1820 that America herself may be said to have had a national literature." The prolegomena to this book are not only valuable but testify to the literary friendships that Trübner had formed. Mr. Benjamin's Moran's sketch of the history of American literature may still be read with profit, whilst if Mr. Edward Edwards' sketch of the public libraries of the United States has now become obsolete, it is not the less an excellent piece of work for the time. The American critics were not slow to recognize the merits of the scholarly bookseller who had thus shown a critical foresight in the attention given to their literature when it was comparatively unknown. This finds hearty expression in Allibone's Dictionary. Of the Guide, he says:—"Of this important publication we

have before us commendations from twenty-three periodicals—nine English, thirteen American, and one French—all published in 1858-59. Of one of these we claim the authorship, and will only add here that if it were to be written now, after seven years' diligent use of the Bibliographical Guide, it would be even still more eulogistic."

American linguistics, equally with American literature, interested Trübner, and this was shown by another of his publications.

The Literature of American Aboriginal Languages. By Herman E. Ludewig. With Additions and Corrections by Professor Wm. W. Turner. Edited by Nicolas Trübner. London, 1858, 8vo, pp. xiv., 258.

Trübner met Dr. Ludewig at New York in 1855, and found in him a man of congenial tastes. He had contemplated a new edition of the Vater—Julg "Linguarum totius orbis index," and had deposited the MS. of the first instalment in the library of the New York Ethnological Society. This Trübner undertook to publish. Dr. Ludewig died whilst this work was in progress, and Trübner acted not only as publisher but as editor, and made considerable additions. He also wrote a brief but appreciative memoir of his friend. The book itself is full of excellent bibliographical material, and its value has been warmly attested by Bunsen, Sir George Grey, Thomas Watts, Max Müller and others.

To his large American trade Mr. Trübner added an Oriental agency. His keen interest in linguistics made this a pleasant part of his business. He acquired a competent knowledge of Sanskrit and showed great enterprise in making the literature of the East better known to the Western world. There is an interesting though incidental tribute to Mr. Trübner's enterprise as an Oriental publisher in Max Müller's introduction to the "Buddhaghosha's Parables." (London, 1870, p. x.) In furtherance both of literature and business Trübner founded the paper which is now so welcome a guest amongst the literati of both hemispheres.

Trübner's American and Oriental Literary Record. A Monthly Register of the most important works published in North and South America, in India, China, and the British Colonies; with occasional notes on German, Dutch, Danish, French, Italian, Spanish, Portuguese, and Russian books.

The first number appeared 16th March, 1865. Since then the title has been amplified, and the latest issue is a double number, 193-194, published in March 1884.

Increased business led to various enlargements of his offices until the erection of the handsome building in Ludgate Hill, in which are now carried on the extensive operations of the firm of Trübner and Co. Numerous catalogues were issued, and these all reached a high standard of bibliographical interest. They had no mere ephemeral interest, but were worthy to be retained as part of the necessary apparatus for the book-lover and librarian. As specimens we may cite the following:—

A Catalogue of Arabic, Persian, and Turkish Books, printed in the East, constantly for sale by Trübner and Co. Hertford, 1869, 18mo.

Bibliotheca Hispano-Americana. A Catalogne of Spanish Books printed in Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, the Antilles, Venezuela, Columbia, Ecuador, Peru, Chili, Uruguay, and the Argentine Republic; and of Portuguese Books printed in Brazil, followed by a collection of works on the Aboriginal Languages of America, on sale at the affixed prices by Trübner and Co. 1870.

Trübner's Catalogue of Dictionaries and Grammars of the principal Languages and Dialects of the World. Second edition, considerably enlarged, with an Alphabetical Index. London, 1882, 8vo, pp. viii., 170.

The first edition appeared in 1872. In its enlarged form it contains nearly 3,000 titles. It is not to be supposed that these catalogues were the work of Mr. Trübner, but it is quite certain that they owed their excellence to his example and imitation.

One of the rarest of the books associated with Mr. Trübner's name remains to be mentioned.

Joseph Octave Delepierre, born 12th March, 1802; died 18th August, 1879; In Memoriam. For friends only. 4to, pp. 69.

This work has both a personal and a literary interest. The dedication reads :— "Affectionately inscribed by N. T. to C. and C. in sorrow, love and hope united." Delepierre was twice married, his first wife being Emily Napier, a sister of Lord Napier, of Magdala. He died at the house of his son-in-law, Nicolas Trübner, 29, Upper Hamilton Terrace, Maida Vale. When the literary history of the present time comes to be written there will be a page for the brilliant gatherings that made that house remarkable. Mr. Trübner and his accomplished wife had the rarest tact and courtesy, so that there was no clashing, although those they gathered round them represented the widest possible varieties of nationality and faith. Their Sunday evening receptions had a cosmopolitan flavour that was unique. The English dean rubbed shoulders with the French revolutionary. Here was a famous Talmudist and there an American humourist. Here a rising man of science, there a brilliant soldier. It was an intellectual Babel in which all manner of strange tongues were spoken. Amongst the friends of Trübner were W. R. Greg, George Eliot, "Abdullah" Palmer, Hepworth Dixon, Doran, and a host of others who are departed. And of those who still remain the list would be equally remarkable. An evening at his house was an occasion to be looked forward to with pleasure, and to be remembered with delight. His fine hospitable nature then found full expression. He talked with a fullness of knowledge and with a ready tact for drawing out the strength of his interlocutor. His judgments were mainly appreciative, though he knew how to be severe upon pretentious sciolism. "Trübner est une bouche d'or" was finely said of him by his friend Louis Blanc. When in New York he met Franz Lieber, who wrote in his diary :—

"Heute frühstückte Trübner aus London bei mir. Was für ein besonders feiner Typus ein deutscher Buchhändler ist; einsichtsvoll, wohl belesen und unterrichtet in der Bibliographie, ein guter Ratgeber, stolz darauf, dem literarischen Gemeinwesen anzugehören; ein Mann, welcher den Schriftsteller ehrt, und es verachtet, ein bloszer Bücherfabricant zu sein. Trübner ist eine der glücklichsten Verkörperungen dieses Typus."

Dr. Allibone styles Mr. Trübner "an eminent publisher and bookseller in London, equally well known as an accomplished bibliographer and philologist, especially as a Sanskrit scholar." After enumerating some of his contributions to the *Critic* and *Athenæum* he says, "but we shall hardly be satisfied without a more enduring record of the results of his linguistic researches." Amongst his unprinted MSS. is one of considerable magnitude in German on the book trade in the classical periods. This he was urged to print but always held it back in the hope of making it more nearly reach the ideal of his fastidious taste. He took an interest in the writings of Giordano Bruno, and privately printed, I believe, in 1882,

A Chapter from Brunnhofer's Life of Giordano Bruno. Translated from the German [by Nicolas Trübner], 8vo., pp. 12.

With this tract there should be a leaf, hektographed, of additional matter. The chapter deals with the question of Bruno's belief in the doctrine of transmigration.

Mr. Trübner died suddenly, March 30th, 1884, at his residence in Upper Hamilton Terrace. The cause of death was heart disease.

He was a member of many learned societies, both at home and abroad, and always had a warm interest in the Library Association. He received a number of foreign decorations, including the Crown Order of Prussia, Franz Josef of Austria, St. Olaf of Sweden, the Zähringer Löwenorden of Baden, and the White Elephant of Siam.

With Nicolas Trübner we lose a fine type of the learned bookseller. A man of wide sympathies, of great business enterprise and capacity, of generous instincts; erudite, genial, and hospitable, a generous adversary and a warm-hearted friend.

A "LIBRARY MANUAL."[1]

We have already expressed, in brief, an unfavourable opinion of this book. As, however, it now re-appears with the words "Second Edition" upon its title-page, though with exactly the same number of pages and, as far as we have observed, with comparatively trifling alterations, it becomes necessary to examine it more closely.

The first portion of the book is devoted, in the writer's own words, to "points of general interest relating to bibliography." The style does not exhibit indications of any critical skill or literary power; and the matter seems to be taken chiefly from Power's "Handy Book about Books." This is certainly the case with the "Chronological Notes" in chap. iv., where all that is original with Mr. Slater consists of some very foolish remarks, and such spellings as "Guttenburg" and "Messrs. Sweynham and Paznartz." The Notes are otherwise full of inaccuracies.

In the second and larger section of the book is presented "a classification of Rare and Standard Works," and the compiler professes to give their values. We may say at once that, so far as we have tested them, very little reliance can be placed upon the author's indications of value, and that, in innumerable instances, they are quite erroneous. To take one instance out of many, Bulwer's "Anthropometamorphosis" he values at £5 at p. 63 and at £2 2s. at p. 187, and the prices put by him upon the early editions of the classics are often ridiculously beside the mark.

This, however, would be less important if the list of books were satisfactory in itself. But this is not so. The books appear to have been put together in the most haphazard fashion, and, considering the class of persons for whom the book is apparently intended, far too much attention is given to rare and expensive works to the neglect of "standard" works. Thus works on science, art, antiquities and ancient classics occupy 55 pages, while the number devoted to "English Literature," which includes all the general history and biography to be found in the book, is only 14 (with 4 more for county histories and chronicles).

Even this space is badly used, too much of it being occupied with long and useless lists of unimportant books and editions, while more important works are entirely omitted. The books selected appear to have been taken from Lowndes (not so trustworthy a guide as Mr. Slater evidently thinks), with a very few additions of later books. We have put down a few of the more conspicuous omissions among modern "standard writers":—

Arnold (M.) and (T.): Austin: Beaconsfield (Lord): Bentham: Berkeley: Black: Blackmore: Blackstone: Bright: Browning: Buckle: Butler (Bishop): Campbell (Lord): Clarendon (Lord): Disraeli (I.): George Eliot: Emerson: Farrar (F. W.): Fawcett: Forster: Freeman: Froude: Gardiner: Gladstone: Green (J. R.): Hawthorne: Irving: Jevons: Kingslake: Kingsley: Lamb: Lecky: Lewes: Lewis (G. C.): Lingard: Living-

[1] The Library Manual: A Guide to the formation of a Library and the valuation of Rare and Standard Books. By J. Herbert Slater. Second Edition. London: Upcott Gill, **N.D.** 8vo, pp. vii., 120.

stone : Lockhart : Lockyer : Longfellow : Lubbock : Lytton (Lord) : Masson : May (Sir E.) : Maine : Merivale : Milman : Mill (J.) and (J. S.) : Morley (H.) and (J.) : Morris (L.) and (W.) : Motley : Max Müller : Napier : Newman (F. W.) and (J. H.) : Oliphant : Pattison : Prescott : Proctor : Reade (Charles) : Robertson : Rossetti : Seeley : Smiles : Stanhope (Lord) : Stanley : Stephen : Stubbs : Swinburne : Symonds : Thomson (Sir W.) : Trench (Archbishop) : Trevelyan (G. O.) : Trollope : Tylor : Tyndall.

Of all these writers, and the list might be greatly extended, not a single work, so far as we can discover, is to be found mentioned in Mr. Slater's book.

The work, in fact, appears to have been done upon no kind of plan or method. Thus, still under English literature, we find entered some score of translations of Anacreon, who occupies, in fact, a quarter of a page; while Homer, Virgil, Herodotus and Thucydides have no entries devoted to them. He registers *eighteen* editions of OSSIAN, and *fourteen* editions of Young's *Night Thoughts*, describing ten of them as "worth from 5s. to 10s. each"!

The chapter devoted to "Ancient Classics" is, perhaps, the worst. The books and the remarks upon them seem to be largely "conveyed" from Dibdin, but are very much mauled and mutilated in the taking. Thus Mr. Slater says that of the 1472 Terence, "there is no known copy in England," though Dibdin tells us there is a fine copy in the Spencer library. Again of the 1472 Cæsar he says, "there is no known copy of this edition in England." Dibdin mentions *three* copies in this country. There is little or nothing to be found as to more modern books, so that the reader is left in the dark as to commentaries and editions of the last fifty years.

The book is full of blunders and misprints, and is in this respect the most slovenly production we remember ever to have seen. We could fill our number with really bad examples, but must limit ourselves to one which may serve to exemplify Mr. Slater's method. On p. 90 we find this remarkable entry: "ECCE HOMO. Many editions, one of the best of which is in 8vo, 1813: £1 7s. 6d." Now Mr. Slater is surely not too young to remember the sensation caused in 1866 by the publication of "Ecce Homo," which may, we believe, be bought new at any bookseller's at a much more modest price than the one he mentions. It is, indeed, true that a book called "Ecce Homo" was published in 1813 (and, indeed, the same title had been used in France in 1792), but we never heard that there were "many" editions of it or, indeed, more than one. We would seriously suggest to Mr. Slater that anyone who is capable of committing such a blunder as this is hardly the person to instruct others. Again under Davies (Robert) we find this extraordinary entry: "*The Attic Knights of Aulus Gellius*," to which Mr. Slater appends this even more extraordinary note, "a learned, and about the only exhaustive treatise on the subject." Altogether we can only confirm our previously expressed opinion that this is "an utterly feeble and mistaken book."

EDITOR.

The Library Chronicle.

The LIBRARY CHRONICLE *is issued on the 15th of the month, and communications, books for review, etc., intended for the forthcoming number should be addressed, not later than the 10th of the month, to the Hon. Editor,* ERNEST C. THOMAS, *care of Messrs. J. Davy & Sons, 137, Long Acre, W.C.*

The attention of librarians and library committees, of publishers and booksellers, is called to the advantages of the CHRONICLE *(which represents at least 250 libraries) as an advertising medium. Advertisements of Library Vacancies, and of Books Wanted, or Duplicates for Sale or Exchange by Libraries are inserted at low rates.*

Members of the Library Association whose subscription for the current year has been paid are entitled to receive the CHRONICLE.

Remittances, subscriptions, and advertisements should be sent to Mr. E. M. BORRAJO, *care of the Publishers.*

The Library Association cannot be responsible for the views expressed by the contributors to the CHRONICLE.

The Library Association.

The next Monthly Meeting of the Association will be held on Friday evening, May 2, at 8 p.m., at the London Institution, when the following Papers will be read: (1) "Researches in the Libraries of the Levant, 1430-1857," by Mr. Edward Edwards; and (2) on "The Office of King's Printer," by Mr. E. C. Thomas.

The Council give notice to library assistants and others that an Examination will be held about the first week in August next, of such candidates as may be desirous of obtaining certificates of competency in librarianship. A detailed scheme of examination is now in preparation, and will be issued shortly. The subjects will embrace:—

1. English Literature, especially of the last hundred years.
2. Some one other European Literature.
3. Principles of the Classification of the Sciences.
4. Elements of Bibliography, including Cataloguing.
5. Library Management.
6. General Literary History.

Only candidates for a First-Class Certificate will be examined in No. 6. A cataloguing knowledge of at least two languages besides English will be necessary for a Second-Class Certificate, and of at least three languages for a First-Class Certificate.

APRIL MONTHLY MEETING.

The April Monthly Meeting was held April 4, at 8 p.m., at the London Institution, Mr. H. B. Wheatley in the chair.

It was announced that Mr. WILLIAM BEVERIDGE, Asst. Librarian, Free Library, Dundee; Mr. HENRY COX, Asst. Librarian, London Library; and Mr. THOMAS FRENCH, Asst. Librarian, Trinity College, Dublin, had become Members of the Association.

Mr. JAMES CARRAGHER, 7, Townhead Street, Hamilton, Glasgow, having been duly proposed at the previous Meeting, was then elected a Member of the Association.

Mr. A. JAURALDE, 62, Ellington Street, Arundel Square, N., was proposed by Mr. Edward M. Borrajo, and seconded by the Honorary Secretary, and Mr. C. A. THIMM, 54, Torrington Square, W.C., was proposed by the Honorary Secretary, and seconded by Dr. Thomas Windsor, for election at the next Meeting.

The Chairman then called upon Mr. Harrison to read his Paper on "Charles Nodier." After a short discussion a vote of thanks was unanimously carried to Mr. Harrison for his paper.

Library Echoes.

It is very gratifying to us to be able to announce that the demand for our First number was such as to make it necessary to issue a Second Edition. We should be very glad if the state of our subscription list were to justify us in regularly printing a larger number of copies than was originally contemplated.

Our members will be glad to know that the long-expected London and Cambridge Transactions will be in their hands before our next number of the CHRONICLE is issued.

Only five hundred copies of this Volume have been printed, and as four hundred will be absorbed at once for the purpose of supplying members, it is manifest that

those who wish to secure subscribers' copies must make early application. An Application Form for this purpose is issued with this number.

Death has removed from our midst one of whom it may be said that he was a bibliographer among publishers, and a publisher among bibliographers. Mr. Nicolas Trübner's career was a happy combination of business pursuits with literary interests. He was justly proud of his position as a publisher, and he has more than once mentioned to us that he had collected materials for a History of Bookselling and Publishing in all ages. It is to be hoped that the benefit of this collection may not be wholly lost to the world.

Mr. Trübner was a Member of the original English Conference of Librarians in 1877, and has been a Member of the Library Association from the beginning. His kindly advice and assistance were always at the disposal of its officers, and it will be remembered that for three years he published the *Monthly Notes of the Association*, rendering important financial support to the Association when it was more needed than it fortunately is at present.

Our readers will have observed that the question of the supply of Public Documents to Free Libraries has again been raised in the House of Commons by the Member for Birkenhead. Mr. Courtney saw "no reason for subsidizing Free Libraries in the manner proposed." But the question must be raised again and again until our object is achieved.

The one all-sufficient reason why these documents should be supplied seems to us to be this—that the government are bound to give the governed all reasonable facilities for access to information collected for public use and at the public expense. As some one hundred and twenty towns tax themselves to maintain a free public library, it appears to us only reasonable that this information should be supplied to every such institution.

The long-talked-of Examination of Library Assistants is really to be held this summer, provided only that candidates present themselves. This first examination must necessarily be somewhat in the nature of an experiment. But if Librarians will lend it their support, there is no reason why it should not be a thoroughly successful experiment.

The *Subjects* of the Examination are announced in another page, and are of course those settled at the Cambridge Meeting. A more detailed Syllabus for the use of candidates, with suggestions as to the books to be read, is nearly ready, and will be issued as soon as it has been approved by the Committee appointed for this purpose.

The ratepayers of Aberdeen are to be congratulated on their decision to adopt the Library Act. Aberdeen is thus the *tenth* town in Scotland to adopt the provisions of the Act. Mr. F. T. Barrett, makes this the text of an excellent leading article in the *Glasgow Herald*, urging the desirability of getting the Act adopted in Glasgow.

While talking of the Public Libraries it is natural to think of Mr. Edward Edwards, whose name will always be associated with the early history of the movement which he did so much to initiate and promote. Our readers will be glad to notice that a contribution from Mr. Edwards will appear in our next number.

EDITOR.

Library Notes and News.

HOME.

ABERDEEN.—A statutory meeting of the ratepayers of Aberdeen (where the acts were rejected in 1872) was held on March 25th, to decide whether the Public

Libraries Acts should be adopted in Aberdeen. The Lord Provost presided, and the resolution in favour of adopting the Acts was moved by Dr. Bain, Lord Rector of the University, and seconded by Mr. Alexander Walker, President of the Mechanics' Institution. A motion to the contrary having been proposed, the voting cards, which were distributed to those present, were collected. The counting took place on the following day, and the result declared on March 27th. The votes were (not counting 127 spoiled and unauthorized votes): For adopting the Acts, 891; against, 264; Majority in favour of the Acts, 627.

The rate will produce £1400 a year, and the ratepayers will have the library and building of the Mechanics' Institution handed over to them. Moreover, by the liberality of citizens and friends in the county a handsome building is in course of erection for an Art Gallery and Museum.

Bootle.—A town's meeting was held in the Town Hall on the 19th of March, the mayor in the chair, to consider the question of adopting the Libraries Acts. A resolution in favour of adopting them was proposed by Alderman Leslie, and was carried unanimously. It was stated that the rate would produce £775 per annum. A suggestion was made that the Library building should include a large hall suitable for lectures, concerts, &c., which might reach an outer section of the community.

Cambridge.—The new Archæological Museum at Cambridge, which is second only to that at Berlin, will be formally opened in May. The want of an adequate library is felt, and Professor Sidney Colvin has issued an appeal for assistance to the members of the University.

Glasgow.—The Annual Meeting of the Members of Stirling's and Glasgow Public Library was held on April 8th, the Lord Provost (Hon. William M'Onie) presiding. The Directors reported that during the past year the work had been larger in every department than in any previous year. The number of members had increased from 664 to 731, and there had been a considerable increase in the issue of books. Bailie Jackson congratulated the members on the increasing usefulness not only of that Institution but also of the Mitchell Library, and bore testimony to the efficient and courteous manner in which Mr. Mason, chief librarian, and Mr. Hutton, his assistant, and the other officials performed their duties. The Lord Provost hoped that the continued success of both libraries would be taken as an omen of success in the movement for establishing a Free Library in Glasgow, which he considered was the first municipal business that lay before them. It was announced that negociations were proceeding with the view of establishing what would be, practically, a branch of the library in the rooms of the Operative Slaters' Society.

Leeds.—Some discontented people have been writing to the Leeds newspapers to complain that the books in the lending department of the Free Library are not so good as those in the reference department, and that they are not allowed to borrow the books in the latter.

London: Lambeth Palace Library.—We are requested to announce that, from April to July inclusive, this Library will be open (Tuesday and Saturday excepted) till 5 p.m. Modern works are lent to residents in the Diocese of Canterbury, and to others duly authenticated in the parishes of Lambeth, Southwark, and Westminster. A special series of books, pamphlets, and prints is being formed on the Antiquities of the County of Kent, and all who have duplicates or can give to this increasing collection are urgently requested to assist.

Manchester: Free Libraries.—At the March Meeting of the Town Council it was resolved to hand over the old Town Hall, which has been for some years occupied by the Reference Library, to the Free Libraries' Committee, together with the vacant land of the Corporation adjoining, and to memorialize the Treasury for its approval. A hope was expressed by several speakers that the library might be housed in a fire-proof building. The Libraries' Committee recommended the extension of the Rochdale Road Free Library, for which plans had been prepared. The money required is about £4,000. The minutes of the Committee were adopted.

Newark.—The Committee of the Stock Library at Newark-upon-Trent have decided to have a catalogue compiled and printed

before next winter, and have taken Mr. J. Potter Briscoe into their counsels on the subject.

NOTTINGHAM: PUBLIC LIBRARIES.—The Lending Library and General Reading Room will very shortly be lighted up by electricity. The work of fixing the wires, &c., is being done by the assistants in the Technical School connected with the University College, under the direction of Prof. Garnett. Swan's lamps will be used, and the power obtained from the engine which drives the machinery in the workshops. The Committee, through the Town Council, will very soon be asked to provide a branch library and reading-room for Hyson Green, a populous part of the borough, at some distance from the Central Library. This will make the fifth branch.

PLYMOUTH.—Mr. W. H. K. Wright, Borough Librarian, has issued a circular announcing that the Committee have approved a scheme for the extension of the library premises, and making a special appeal for subscriptions towards the necessary funds, which are estimated at £400. The last £50 of this sum has been promised by "A Friend."

ST. HELENS.—It is in contemplation to make alterations in the Town Hall buildings, a portion of which is occupied by the Public Library, and the Library Committee has been invited to state what alterations they consider necessary in the library premises. A special meeting was held on March 27, when Mr. Cotton moved a resolution to the effect that the present accommodation is inadequate and that no alteration will meet present or future requirements. This was adopted, and Mr. Dromgoole then moved a resolution, which was also adopted, requesting the Town Council to provide a new building adapted for Library, Reading Room, Museum and Art Gallery, suitable for the requirements of the borough.

It is interesting, especially to those who remember the discussions in connexion with the clauses of the Metropolitan Free Libraries Bills which have been framed since 1878, to notice some of the provisions of the London Government Bill. By clause 42 the Public Libraries Acts may without any adoption be put into execution in any part of London by the Common Council, either through themselves or the District Councils. The existing buildings will become the property of the Corporation, but are still to be considered local property, and the expense of keeping them up will fall upon the parishes in which they are respectively situate.

FOREIGN.

Europe.

GÖTTINGEN.—Otto von Gebhardt contributes to the *Centralblatt* for April a long notice of a "Codex Corvinianus," which was acquired by the University Library of Gottingen in 1794 as a gift. The writer furnishes many interesting particulars of the attempt, which has been pursued with special diligence during the last few years, to trace all the scattered manuscripts which once formed part of the library of Corvinus, and which has corrected and extended the lists printed by Vogel and Mr. Edwards.

PARIS: MUNICIPAL LIBRARIES.—A new Municipal Library was opened on the 27th March, at the École Communale des Garçons, 48, Rue Servan, in the 11th Arrondissement. This makes the 31st library actually opened in Paris according to the *Journal Officiel*, so that of the fifteen libraries mentioned in our last number (see p. 13) as provided for in the appropriations for the present year, nine must be already open.

The Municipal Council has resolved to devote the legacy left by M. Forney, who died in 1879, consisting of 214,000 fr., to the establishment of a Library of Industrial Art. A handsome building which had been intended for a popular library, but was found to be too large for the purpose, will be devoted to the "Bibliothèque Forney" which is intended to furnish the artizans of Paris with the means of cultivating that "inventive genius and artistic taste" which M. Durand claims on their behalf in the report he has presented to the Council on the subject of the proposed collection.

ROME.—According to the *Nuova Antologia* the catalogues of the Greek and Latin MSS. of the Vatican which have been expected so long, will shortly begin to appear. They have been prepared by the two Stevensons, father and son, and will be printed at the Vatican Press with the im-

print: Typis Vaticanis. Two volumes are nearly ready for the press, one embracing the Greek MSS. and the other the first portion of the Latin MSS. of the *Fondo Palatino*. Then will follow the catalogues of the *Fondo della Regina Christina*, and finally those of the *Fondo Vaticano*. For these last, however, we shall no doubt have long to wait.

ST. PETERSBURG.—It is reported from St. Petersburg that a special censorship is to be established, with the view of superintending the libraries of Russia, and regulating the use made of them by readers.

STRASSBURG.—From an elaborate statistical table printed in the *Centralblatt* we learn that the number of readers using the University Library of Strassburg has risen from 344 in 1872 (the first year of its re-establishment) to 21,360 in 1883. Of these persons 5497 consulted books in the library, 14,518 borrowed books for use at their homes in the town, and 1345 had books sent out of the town for their use. The number of volumes used rose from 4,920 in 1872 to 63,461 in 1883. The books so used are most minutely classified according to their subject-matter.

VIENNA.—The sums appropriated in the Austrian Budget for the support of the University Libraries of Cisleithania are as follows:—Vienna, 37,526 fl.; Prague, 26,359 fl.; Gratz, 16,095 fl.; Lemberg, 15,281 fl.; Cracow, 15,075 fl. (in addition 3,700 fl. for special expenses); Innsbruck, 14,704 fl.; and Czernowitz, 14,425 fl., making a total, for the seven Universities, of 128,660 fl. (equal to about £12,866).

The Colonies and America.

LIMA.—An appeal is made for contributions of books for the reconstruction of the *Biblioteca Nacional*. The Library, which is said to have comprised nearly 70,000 volumes, was carried away, it will be remembered, by the Chilians or pillaged by the soldiery. At all events it was reduced to some 700 torn, tattered and half-burnt volumes. One of the first official acts of General Iglesias was to appoint Dr. Ricardo Palma librarian. Dr. Palma has issued an appeal for assistance in restoring the library, asking for books in all languages, and especially for works on America, in which the library was particularly strong.

MELBOURNE.—The *Herald* of Melbourne announces that the process of re-classifying the Melbourne Public Library, upon which Dr. Bride and his assistants have been engaged for several months, is nearly finished. Every one of the 100,000 volumes has its fixed location, and can be turned up in a moment under the new catalogue system, combined with three tickets pasted on each book. *Habitués*, it is added, have regarded the process of reform with impatience, but it is based on the principles now followed in all the great libraries, and settled at the Congress of Librarians in London.

TORONTO.—The formal Opening of the Toronto Public Library and Reading Room took place on Thursday afternoon, March the 6th, Mr. John Hallam, Chairman of the Library Board, presiding. Addresses were delivered by Dr. Wilson, the Minister of Education (Hon. G. W. Ross), Dr. Withrow, and Prof. Goldwin Smith, after which the Lieutenant-Governor (Mr. Robinson) declared the Library and Reading Room to be open. The Chairman then handed to him the first book loaned from the library. In the evening the doors were thrown open and thousands of citizens visited the institution.

WASHINGTON.—There is reported to be a good deal of opposition to the Bill now before Congress with regard to the proposed new building for the Library. A pamphlet has just been issued anonymously, a copy of which it was proposed to place in the hands of every Representative, entitled "A National Library not a Mausoleum," setting forth the condition and necessities of the Library. The writer quotes from Mr. Spofford's reports for the last ten years, and comments upon the indifference with which Congress has regarded the warnings and appeals of their librarians.

We only learn just as we are going to press that Mr. F. Leypoldt, of New York, died on March 31st. The name of Mr. Leypoldt is familiar to every librarian, not only as the publisher of the *Library Journal*, which was for several years the official organ of the English Library Association, but also in connection with the *Publishers' Weekly* and the *American Catalogue*. We have special reasons for regretting the loss of Mr. Leypoldt's friendly services as the American publisher of the CHRONICLE.

Library Catalogues and Reports.

Catalogue of the Library of the Reform Club. London: Printed for the Members 1883. 8vo, pp. 16-623.

The Chairman of the Library Committee, Mr. W. Fraser Rae, contributes to this handsome and portly volume an interesting account of "The Reform Club and its Library." The formation of an extensive library was one of the objects contemplated at the establishment of the Club in 1836. The early meetings of the Library Committee were constantly attended by Panizzi, who drew up the rules for the original catalogue, which are printed by Mr. Rae. The present is the first printed catalogue. It is alphabetical, followed by a classified index, much on the plan of the catalogue of the London Library. The plan unfortunately seems better than the execution. There are too many misprints and mistakes, and the classical books, for example, are very clumsily catalogued. The Index is not well done. Under "Law of Science" we do not find the name of John Austin. Under "Philology" we find no reference to Max Müller's books and many others, which are nevertheless in the library, *e.g.*, Horne Tooke and Prof. Whitney. The entries under "Philosophy, Moral" are hopelessly inconsistent with those under "Moral Philosophy," and Lewes, though entered under "Metaphysics," which he repudiated, is not to be found under "Psychology" or "Mind." Under "Greece," "Apollonius Rhodius" and "Aratus" are entered among the "Historians and Philosophers," and not among the "Poets." Strabo, too, must be a little surprised to find himself among the "Latin Authors," and we fear that "Bœthius," "Iamblicus" (twice) and "Pausanius" would not approve of the *reformed* spelling of their names. On the very first page of the "Index" we find the hideous forms "ÆRONAUTICS" and "Bynkers Choek."

Manchester Public Free Libraries. Catalogue of the Deansgate Branch Lending Library. Third edition, Manchester, 1883. Large 8vo. pp. viii, 231, half bound.

The Deansgate Branch Library, as many of our readers are aware, is the successor of the first Free Lending Library opened in Manchester, at the building previously known as the Hall of Science, Campfield. This Catalogue is compiled on the Index-System, which—and the fact should be better known than it appears to be—was "first adopted at the Manchester Free Libraries sixteen years ago." The present edition embraces 17,694 volumes.

City of Newcastle-upon-Tyne. Third Annual Report of the Public Libraries Committee, 1882-83. Newcastle-upon-Tyne, 1883. 8vo, pp. 30.

The issues from the lending department were 261,325 volumes, being an increase of 49,913 volumes on the number circulated during 1881-82. Out of a gross issue, during the three years the libraries have been open, of over three quarters of a million only eight volumes have been lost. In the juvenile department 38,055 volumes have been issued, being an increase of 11,680 on the previous year. Only one volume is reported missing in this department. 419,649 visits have been paid to the News-room during the year. The Committee hope to be able to open the reference library early in the present year. The important purchase of Mr. Merrifield's library of over 1,000 volumes, chiefly of a scientific character, was made in last July for addition to the stock of the reference library which now consists of 17,658 volumes. The usual statistical tables are appended, including a remarkably minute one showing the trades and professions of readers. In the highly satisfactory report of the Educational Committee, which is attached, we learn that the total number of students receiving instruction in the several classes during the session has been 463—considerably above that of the previous session. In our notice of last year's report (M. N. vol. iv. p. 83), by a printer's error, we are made to give the issues for the year, 1881-82, as 513,337 instead of 213,337.

City of Norwich. Annual Report of the Free Library Committee to the Town Council, 1883, Norwich, 8vo, pp. 15.

The number of books in the lending department is 8,089, and in the reference department 1,382, with about 600 pamphlets. Of these 462 volumes and most of the pamphlets form a local collection. The total issues for 1883 were 48,906, representing 56,084 volumes—where practicable, in all classes, the two or three volumes of a work being issued at the same time. These figures show an increase of 18,014 over the previous year, when, however, the library was closed for an extra ten weeks. The percentage of fiction issued is 66·63. The system of advising borrowers by post cards that books wanted have been returned still gives general satisfaction. The Committee dwell upon the great need of a Ladies' reading-room, and look forward to its establishment at no distant date. Annexed to the report is a list of the reviews, magazines and newspapers placed in the reading-room. The rate produced £980, and the year ends with a balance in hand of £277. 4s. 9d.

The autumn Bulletin of the Boston Public Library for 1883, besides the usual list of the new and more important books placed in the library from April to August, 1883, contains a very interesting list of books, newspapers, pamphlets and broadsides printed or published by Benjamin Franklin. Under the entry *The Pennsylvania Gazette* there is a long note giving an account of that paper from the pen of Mr. C. R. Hildeburn, who intends to publish a more extended bibliography of Pennyslvania press. The index of articles upon American local history is continued from the April number, and there is also an index to the notes about books and reading.

In the January number of the *Harvard University Bulletin*, besides the usual official intelligence and list of accession, the classified index to maps in Petzmann's Mittheilungen is concluded. There are, moreover, instalments of the Bibliography of Ptolemy's Geography and "The Kohl Collection of Early Maps." It is announced that Mr. W. H. Tillinghast, a member of the library staff, has undertaken to prepare an index to maps contained in geographical periodicals, collections of voyages, &c., to be found in the University Library, or in the larger libraries of Boston.

Record of Bibliography and Library Literature.

The English Catalogue of Books for 1883, containing a Complete List of all the Books published in Great Britain and Ireland in the year 1883, with their sizes, prices, and Publishers' names; also of the Principal Books published in the United States of America, with the addition of an Index to Subjects . . . . London: Sampson, Low & Co., 1884. 8vo. pp. 127. Price 5s.

This Index to the Books recorded in the *Publisher's Circular* still remains the only annual record of English publication, and is still of course indispensable to the librarian.

The Country Gentleman's Reference Catalogue . . . . issued by Barnicott & Son., Taunton, 1883. 8vo. pp. 126. Price 1s.

A useful list of books on Agriculture, Gardening, Botany, Natural History, Sporting, Domestic Economy, etc. etc., arranged in classes, with a convenient index.

Remarks on Library Construction. By William F. Poole, Librarian of the Chicago Public Library . . . Chicago, 1884. 8vo. pp. 34.

This vigorously written and interesting pamphlet reproduces Dr. Poole's remarks on Library Architecture made at the Buffalo Meeting of the American Library Association, to which he has added a searching examination of a pamphlet by Mr. Smithmeyer, an architect who has prepared plans for the new Library of Congress. Every librarian should read this pamphlet.

Salomon Hirzel's Verzeichniss einer Goethe-Bibliothek mit Nachträgen und Fortsetzung herausgegeben von Ludwig Hirzel. Leipzig: Hirzel, 1884. 8vo. pp. vi. 217. Price M.3.

Salomon Hirzel left his large Goethe Collection to the University Library of Leipzig. He had already privately printed a Catalogue in 1874, and now his family have brought the Catalogue down to date, so that it embraces the numerous publications issued especially since 1877. The titles are arranged chronologically, and the name of Professor Hirzel is a voucher for their accuracy. Every book is described from actual inspection.

Catalogo della Libreria Pandolfini. Alla Libreria Dante in Firenze, 1884. 8vo. pp. 52. Price L.2.50.

One of the best of this Series, of which only 200 copies are printed. This Catalogue of the library of the Pandolfini family dates from the beginning of the 16th century, and embraces MSS. and printed books in one list, arranged in classes, the mode of binding being also indicated. In his very interesting introduction, the editor (E. Alvisi) tries to show that some of these MSS. found their way through Libri's hands into the Ashburnham Collection.

The *Library Journal* announces that Mr. Leonard A. Jones, 33, Rogers Building, Boston, is preparing for early publication an Index to legal periodical literature somewhat upon the plan of Poole's Index.

The accomplished Hellenist, E. Egger, has written an article in the *Journal des Débats* (Feb. 23), on "La Société anglaise des Index et les Index en France." Without lingering over the publications of the English Society, in which he appears to find little to attract him, he produces an agreeable *causerie*, chiefly devoted to the Index volume which M. Renan has added to his *Origines du Christianisme*. "C'est bien lui," as M. Egger says, "qui a rédigé ce travail complémentaire, et cela en très petit comité de famille, ce dont j'informe le public au risque de divulguer un secret."

Notes and Queries.

Notes.

Authorship. The Rev. Edwin Abbott Abbott, D.D., wrote "Onesimus: Memoirs of a Disciple of St. Paul"; also "Philochristus: Memoirs of a Disciple of our Lord," which was published anonymously; J. B. Harwood wrote "Lord Lynn's Wife." "Lord Lynn's Choice" is, I think, a mistake. W. G. B. Page, Subscription Library, Hull.

——— The authors of "Three in Norway" I believe to be Mr. Lees and Mr. Taylor, of Oldham. Ambrose Berry, Oldham.

Auctioneers' Bibliography. I have been favoured with a rather pretentious catalogue (price one shilling) of a Cheshire vicar's library which is shortly to be sold. Not a few of the books are quite new to me, and among them the following, upon which your learned correspondents may be able to enlighten me—Hexpla's Psalter, 1 vol, 4to, cloth: London, 1843; Traduction's Gallus' Poems, 2 vols, 8vo, leather: Amsterdam, 1771. S.

Queries.

Can anyone give me information as to the existence of a book quoted by Maichelius but which I have been unable to find: Judoci a Dudincke Palatium Apollinis et Palladis: Colon. 1643, 8vo.? T.

I have been recently looking into Mr. Daydon Jackson's "Guide to the Literature of Botany," published by the Index Society, and was surprised to find Mr. Jackson speaking in his introduction (p. xxxi.) of the edition of Theophrastus by Bodaeus a Stapel, in the following terms: "This is considered the 'Editio princeps.'" As Bodaeus a Stapel flourished at the beginning of the seventeenth century, and there were several editions of Theophrastus before he was born, the phrase must here, I suppose, mean the *best* edition. As the "Guide," appearing under the auspices of the Index Society, must be supposed to be correct in its use of bibliographical terms, I should be glad to know, as a humble student of bibliography, what other authority there is for this use of the term? While I am writing I may also mention that it appears to me curious to find, at p. 206 of the same work, Lord Bacon's "Sylva Sylvarum" classed as a treatise on *Dendrology*. Has Mr. Jackson ever looked into the book or does he think, like Mr. G. A. Sala, that it is a book to be classed with Evelyn's *Silva*? Tiro.

Correspondence.

An Incunable Wanted.

Cambridge, *April* 12, 1884.

I venture through the medium of the "Library Chronicle" to ask for the loan of an incunable: *Gasparini Pergamensis Orthographia*, printed at Paris, circa 1476, or perhaps earlier. It contains a letter in which Gutenberg is mentioned as the inventor of printing. Much has already been said on this letter in France and Germany, but I should wish to treat it from a bibliographical point of view, and for this purpose to consult the book. There is no copy of it in the British Museum, nor do I see it in the Bodleian Catalogue. Nor does it appear to be in the Munich Library, as Hain does not describe the book. It is perhaps in the Paris Library, but I believe no printed books are lent out by that institution. Any librarian or private collector able and willing to lend me the book for a fortnight, and to send it for my use to the Cambridge University Library, would greatly oblige me.

J. H. Hessels.

Disfiguring of Books in the Post.

Town Hall, St. Helens, *March* 26, 1884.

In reference to Mr. Newton's letter in the December number of "Monthly Notes," on the damage done to pamphlets, &c., by being doubled up and sent in that form through the post, I may say that such damage could be considerably if not altogether obviated by adopting the very simple plan of inserting a thin piece of cardboard in the middle of the pamphlet, about the same size, when preparing it for post. Our Annual Report for last year was posted in this form, and I venture to think it would be received in a much better state than usually is the case with such like publications. The wrapper should completely cover or slightly overlap the edges of the pamphlet so as to keep it clean, and it should likewise be fastened to the inserted cardboard to prevent it from slipping out. If these precautions were taken, pamphlets and other publications similar to "Monthly Notes," would reach their destination in a more presentable form than is the case at present.

Alfred Lancaster, *Librarian.*

The University Library, Marischal College, Aberdeen,
4th April, 1884.

In the final number of the "Monthly Notes" there appeared a letter from Mr. Thomas W. Newton, justly complaining of the frequently crushed and disfigured state of his copy when it reached his hands. I also, and doubtless many others, have had similar cause to complain, though for one reason or another we have judged it best to endure in silence. Now, however, that the grievance is likely to be aggravated in the larger and handsomer "Library Chronicle," the first number of which has just reached me in a somewhat dilapidated condition, the case is one that clearly calls for attention and consideration. As a contribution to the solution of the difficulty I would suggest that as probably a considerable number of the provincial members of the Association have Book Agents in London, from whom they are in the way of receiving parcels frequently, their copies of the "Chronicle" should be handed to the latter to be forwarded at the first convenient opportunity. Such a plan would not only save for the Association the cost of postage, but it would obviate the risk of damage involved in transmission through the post office.

A. W. Robertson.

Japanese Bibliography.

Spring Gardens, London, *March* 28, 1884.

I am desirous of obtaining information as to the books in Public and Private Libraries, relating to Japan or books in the written character of Japan; and will be glad to reciprocate by furnishing Librarians or Students of Japanese with information as to titles of books on Japan, especially Japanese Literature. I am compiling a List, of both classes, noting where the rarer works are to be found, at home or abroad.

C. Pfoundes.

An Offer.

Mr. R. A. Macfie, whose address is Dreghorn, Colinton, Midlothian, wishes us to inform the Heads of Public Libraries of sufficient importance that he will send a copy of "Copyright and Patents," two volumes 8vo., on receipt of Ninepence in postage stamps, which is the Parcels Post charge in this country, or of postage if to foreign countries—the weight is under 3 lbs. The donor does not know whether in these latter there may be any duty to pay. These volumes are a compilation of miscellaneous matter on these interesting subjects.

Printed and published for the Library Association of the United Kingdom by J. Davy & Sons, *at the Dryden Press*, 137, *Long Acre, London. Annual Subscription, post free*, 6*s*.

The Library Chronicle.

RESEARCHES FOR MANUSCRIPTS IN THE LEVANT AND, MORE ESPECIALLY, IN THE MONASTERIES OF MOUNT ATHOS: GIOVANNI AURISPA TO SPYRIDION LAMBROS (A.D. 1425 TO 1880).

(*Being an abridged Chapter of a forthcoming Book.*)

BY EDWARD EDWARDS.

§ 1. *Researches at Constantinople, and in various parts of the Levant.*

> "What Antiquarian, worthy of the name, would be arrested . . . . by distant barriers, when beyond them a whole Harem of virgin MSS. wooed his embrace, glowing like so many houris with immortal youth, and rich in charms, which increased with each revolving century."
>
> (SIR JAMES STEPHEN, *Essays on Eccl. Hist.*)

AMONGST the earliest promoters of systematic research in Eastern libraries, expressly for the purpose of enriching those of Continental Europe, either with original MSS. and more especially with Greek MSS. by purchase, or with extracts and transcripts, when the originals were found to be unattainable, were several members of the eminent Florentine family of Strozzi. Palla degli Strozzi sent to Constantinople a distinguished revivalist, Giovanni Aurispa, about the year 1420. At a somewhat later date, Lorenzo degli Strozzi appears to have employed more than one literary agent on similar researches. The envoy of Palla, and the envoy of Lorenzo, were alike successful. Aurispa persecuted his quest with so much vigour that an influential courtier at Constantinople is recorded to have made formal complaint to the Emperor that the Italian stranger had "quite despoiled the imperial capital of its sacred books."[1] Lorenzo's spoils incited his descendants of many generations to follow in his steps. Some of them rivalled the Medici, both in the number and in the liberal pay of their several envoys. Their successive acquisitions grew into a very rich library, largely increased from other than Levantine

1 "L'Aurispa, portatosi a Constantinopoli per erudirsi a fondo nella Greca favella, tanti libri, sacri e profani, ... che accusato fu presso l'Imperadore, quasichè di libri sacri spogliasse quella capitale."—ANDRES: *Dell'Origine . . . . d'Ogni Letteratura*, iii., 35, *seqq.* Comp. VESPASIANO FIORENTINO: *Vita Ambrosii Camaldulensis.*

sources (as, for example, by the acquisition of a large collection formed by Cardinal Niccolò Ridolfi), and also steadily thence, until, in the time of that warlike and famous Strozzi who fell at Thionville, in 1558, it excited the cupidity of Queen Catherine de Medicis. Having tried in vain to obtain the collection during the Marshal's lifetime, she laid violent hands on it at his death. She did not obtain the whole, for some of its precious MSS., of Eastern origin, are still to be seen in Florence (at the *Magliabechiana*), but seized—by a mixture, as it seems, of stratagem with force[1]—the larger portion, which still figures conspicuously in the great National Library of France. Many choice volumes were not, when so acquired, outwardly in the condition in which Lady Capulet wished Juliet to be—even as

> " The book, in many eyes, doth share the glory,
> That in gold clasps locks in the golden story;"

but were rather like volumes—

> " That to beautify them, only lack'd a cover;"

and, as the Strozzi books had been originally seized by one fraud, so the cost of binding them was, afterwards, defrayed by another. Funds belonging to the Parisian Jesuits were violently appropriated by Catherine's heir to pay the binder's bill.

Still later, some of the booty thus acquired by theft, and richly bound by craft, were in turn stolen from their new abode, and are, I believe, to be seen, occasionally, in our own libraries here in England, and also in, at least, one library in Russia.

Francesco Filelfo followed close upon the track of Aurispa. Writing to Ambrogio Traversari, Filelfo says (his letter is undated, but was written either in 1429 or in 1430), that he had already acquired choice MSS. of Aristotle, Plato, Plotinus, Philostratus and Proclus; of Homer, Hesiod, Pindar, Theocritus, Callimachus, and Euripides; of the Orphic *Hymns* and of the *Argonautics;* of Herodotus, Dionysius of Halicarnassus, Polybius, and Strabo.

An eminent contemporary of Filelfo, Guarino of Verona, was almost as successful in his quest, but less fortunate in harvesting the fruits of it. The vessel in which he had shipped his Greek MSS. made a fair voyage, but was wrecked when in sight of port.

Like researches on behalf of France had the great and characteristic advantage of being backed by the public influence and the public means, as well as by the resources of private lovers of learning. And that this was so, in bad times as well as in the bright days of prosperity, is one of the many—and the perennial—glories of French literary history. Under Francis I, we find record of express official instructions to French Ambassadors and Consuls directing them to promote, to their utmost power, the search after valuable MSS., such as, in our own country, there is no account of, until in the reign of her present Majesty. Individual ambassadors, indeed, of various periods, such as Sir Thomas Roe, Sir William Hamilton, and Lord Elgin, set, as we all know, a noble example in this channel of research, as well as in several cognate ones, but it was done at their own hand, and the cost of it was defrayed from their own purses. Even of that

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[1] Brantome (*Vies des Capitaines Etrangers*, I., 434),—" Strozzi had a very choice library .... And it could not be said of him as Lewis XI said of a non-reading Prelate who possessed a fine collection of books—'He is like a hunchback with a fine hunch, which he never looks at.' Strozzi often visited his library, and read his books..... When he was killed... the Queen-mother laid hands on the library, but told the Marshal's son that—some day—she would pay him its value .... He never got a penny. Often have I heard him complain bitterly about it." .... Comp. De Thou, *Mémoires*, An. 1599; and a paper in *Bulletin du Bibliophile*, xiii., 518, *seqq.*, 526, *seqq.*

individual enthusiasm and open-handedness, there is *earlier* example in French than in British annals. Of not a few eminent and early French diplomatists it may truthfully be said, in the words of Chiabrera[1]—

> "The needful service of the State
> Drew 'TITUS' from the depth of studious bowers,
> And doomed him to contend in faithless Courts,
> Where gold determines between right and wrong;"—

But, without neglecting the special duties of his function, an envoy of that strain found, in his very embassy, new fuel for the old flame. He made his unwonted function the occasion and the channel again—

> "To wait upon the bright and gracious Muse
> Whom he had early loved. And not in vain
> Such course he held." . . . .

It enabled him, from time to time, to send to the great Library of Paris from Constantinople, and from various parts of Asia Minor, MSS. which, after the lapse of four centuries, are reckoned among its best treasures.

And besides the early diplomatists of France, humbler but not less zealous or less able men were traversing the Levant, expressly as literary missionaries, seeking as well for Oriental MSS. as for Greek. Amongst these special agents for the enrichment of the libraries of France, Guillaume Portel, Juste Tenelle and Pierre Gilles, were conspicuous. The last named had to carry on his researches amidst adventures as romantic as they were, for a long time, adverse to his purpose. Having always to face many of the hardships of travel, he once at least had to face hardships with a purse utterly exhausted. In a little-frequented district of Asia Minor, alone and moneyless, he was compelled (*circa* 1540-42) to *sell* the MSS. he had had so much trouble in acquiring. Presently, he was made a captive by the Turks, and forced to serve in their campaign against Persia. When remittances came at length to hand, he bought his discharge; was then suddenly seized by illness; and was again sold into captivity. He did not find his way back to France until in the reign of Henry II. His comrades, happily, were less unfortunate.[2] Nearly at the same epoch, Eparchus, of Corfu, contributed to the Royal Library the fruits of independent researches in the East, and Jean Hurault de Boisbaillé—the earliest in date of four members of the Hurault family, all of whom were distinguished as book-collectors—made like researches with great success. His MSS. continued in the possession of the family until the death of Philippe Hurault, Bishop of Chartres (1622), from whose executors they were bought by Lewis XIII.

The Marquess of Brèves, in common with so many Ambassadors both before and after him, had put his twenty-two years of continuous diplomatic employment at Constantinople to a literary account. He had obtained many MSS.—Syriac, Arabic, Turkish and Persian. When these collections reached Paris (1632), they were placed, for examination, in the hands of Gabriel Sionita. On his imprisonment, in the year 1640, the De Brèves MSS. were transferred to the Library of Richelieu. With the rest of the Cardinal's literary collections they passed eventually to the Sorbonne; were there made accessible to scholars, according to the directions of Richelieu's will; and were

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1 Delisle, ut sup. II., 206.

2 Ribier, *Lettres et Mémoires d Estat*, ii., 99; Franklin (Alfred): *Anciennes Bibliothèques de Paris*, ii., 135.

not received into the National Library until the year 1796. Richelieu had caused them to be bound, into about a hundred and ten volumes, and to be impressed with his own arms.[1]

At a later period, the Chancellor Séguier (died 1672) was very prominent in the dispatch of his own agents to the Levant, upon a like quest. And it is interesting to note that all the excitement and turmoil of the Fronde—more than once putting his own life in imminent hazard, in strangest fashion—were not suffered to interrupt his active and steady encouragement of those far-off researches.

Among the agents he employed was Father Athanase Rhetor, and the first Greek manuscript obtained from Mount Athos ever seen by Montfaucon was an acquisition made by F. Athanase on the Chancellor's behalf.[2] There are repeated entries of payments to this emissary in Séguier's accounts; in the turbulent year 1646, they seem to have amounted to 4,500 livres. In that year, Athanase sent him forty-six Greek MSS. from Cyprus, and ten from Constantinople. The last-named suffered shipwreck, but were sedulously fished up by the zealous agent, at least in part. And the then Ambassador of France at the Porte, De La Haye, promoted the Chancellor's researches with zeal, as well as the searches made on behalf of the Royal Library. Some differences appear to have arisen between employer and agent. ATHANASE died in France in or about the year 1664, whilst advancing claims yet unsatisfied. He had still precious Greek MSS. in his hands, partly among his own effects, partly in the custody of a Parisian lawyer. All were seized under the *droit d'Aubaine*.[3]

Amongst many subsequent collectors whose acquisitions in the Levant enriched, from time to time, the great library of France, Antoine Galland (1686) and Jean Girardin (1687-88) are conspicuous, although both of them were disappointed in the results of their special inquiries into the fate of the library of the Greek emperors.

In some interesting letters written by Girardin to Louvois from Constantinople in 1687, the minister is assured that the Greek manuscripts remaining in the Seraglio had been at length examined by a competent scholar (Besnier) who had obtained access to them through an Italian renegade employed in the domestic service of the Sultan. They are said to be nearly two hundred in number; but, according to the writer, or his informants, the sixteen manuscripts then reported as being on their way to Paris (Sept. 1687) were all that possessed "real value."[4] This statement, however, does not agree with other and, as will be seen presently, with later and better testimony.

The disasters of the declining years of Lewis XIV., synchronising so judicially with that miserable policy which resulted in the expulsion from France of many of his own best and noblest subjects, and of thousands of his most skilful craftsmen and artizans,

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1 Delisle: *Le Cabinet des MSS. de la Bibliothèque Nationale*, I., 213, 214. It may be added that this affair of the Brèves MSS. gave rise to a long law suit, complicated by an interest which the Royal Printing Office at Paris claimed in some beautiful founts of Syriac, Arabic and Persian types, which the Marquess had also brought from Constantinople, and which had passed, with the MSS., into the possession of Richelieu. *Cf.* Frankl., *Précis*, 120.

2 MONTFAUCON: *Palæographia Græca* (Introduction, iii.)

3 DELISLE: *Le Cab. des MSS. de la Bib. Imp.* ii. 80, seqq.

4 Girardin to Louvois, March and Sept. 1687, printed by Delisle: *Le Cab. des MSS.* i. 296, 297. M. Alfred Franklin is certainly in error in the statement (first made in his *Anciennes Bibl.*, ut sup., and repeated in his *Précis* of 1875, p. 193) that "Besnier sent from Constantinople *two hundred* manuscripts, which had belonged to the Library of the Grand Signor."

combined with a marked decline, alike in the ability and in the literary culture, of those who then administered the affairs of the kingdom, brought, in their train, a term of stagnation and of comparative penury in the annals of the National Library. Perhaps the last decade of the seventeenth, and the first decade of the eighteenth centuries, may truthfully be described as the "famine years" of one of the oldest and grandest of French establishments.

When, under better auspices,—and with that wonderfully rapid recuperative power which France has so often and so nobly shown under calamity,—the state of things had in some degree improved, the Royal Library was again an object of assiduous care to French Statesmen, and, amongst other measures for its advantage, they renewed, in spite of Girardin's discouraging report of 1688, the literary mission to the East. Since the days of Girardin and of Galland, news had come of the introduction of printing into Turkey, by artizans brought (under the patronage of the Sultan Ahmad III.) from Venice. This was taken to be an encouraging sign. The Abbés François Sevin and Michel Jourmont were sent to Constantinople towards the close of 1728. The only "*Imperial* Library" they could examine was that established by Sultan Selim II. "It contained," says Sevin, "between 3,000 and 4,000 volumes; but, with the exception of four Register Books of the Chancery of Venice, all these were either Turkish, Arabic, or Persian. Of Greek, scarcely anything could be found. But the mission was far from being fruitless. The Consuls of France were incited to new activity. The co-operation of the Patriarch of Jerusalem was obtained. Biblical and Patristic MSS. of value were purchased from monasteries. Some Armenian MSS. also—hitherto little valued or sought for—were now acquired. Within two years, more than six hundred Oriental codices were collected for the Royal Library of France. And the foundation was laid of a school of Oriental transcribers and translators, the labour of which, in later years, proved to be very productive, and not for France alone.

In literature and in science, especially, the gains of France are characteristically the gains of the world. In better days than the present, it was so, likewise, in the nobler, the far grander, gains of Religious Faith.

Not to interrupt notice of what was done in this field of research by Frenchmen, I have postponed all account of the not less worthy endeavours at the beginning of the seventeenth century of our own eminent diplomatist, Sir Thomas Roe. They, too, were fruitful, rather in the way of example and inception than of immediate attainment. They led, eventually, amongst other acquisitions, to that of the famous *Codex Alexandrinus*, the full story of which belongs to the History of our National Museum.

Contemporary with the endeavours of Roe were those of the devoted agent who was employed in the East during many of the earlier years of the sixteenth century by a truly noble Englishman, the Earl of Arundel. The Ambassador zealously favoured Lord Arundel's explorations, though the task was one of some peril from the jealous rivalry (jealous, at least, on one side) between that eminent collector and the Duke of Buckingham. "By my means," wrote Sir Thomas Roe to one of the chaplains of Archbishop Abbot, "Mr. Petty had admittance into the best Library known [to exist] of Greece, where are loades of old manuscripts, and hee used so fine art, with the helpe of some of my servants, that he conveyed away twenty-two. *I thought I should have had my share, but hee was for himself.* He is a good chooser; saw all or most; and tooke, I thinke, those that were and wilbe of greate esteeme. Hee speaketh sparingly of

such a bootye, but could not conteyne sometyme to discover with joy his treasure . . .[1] I meant to have a review of that Librarye, but *hee gave it such a blow, under my trust, that, since it hath been locked up, under two keys*, whereof one [is] kept by the townsmen that have . . oversight of the Monastery, so that I could do no good. My hope is to deale with the Patriarch, and not to trust to myselfe and to chances."

By the gift of Cyril LUCAR, the ill-fated Patriarch of Constantinople, King Charles, received in the year 1628, from the hands of Sir Thomas Roe (at that date still the King's Ambassador to the Ottoman Porte), the venerable Alexandrian MS. of the *Bible* in Greek. To Roe, the credit of the acquisition is fairly due. He obtained it, for presentation to King James, as early as in 1624. His own account was at that date written to Lord Arundel, thus: "The Patriarch hath given me an autographal *Bible* entire, written by the hand of Tecla, the protomartyr of the Greeks, *that lived in the time of S. Paul*, and [he] doth aver it to be . . . authentical, of her own writing, and the greatest antiquity of the Greek Church." Two years later, he wrote of it to Archbishop Laud as written . . "by the virgin Tecla, ... who was persecuted in Asia, and to whom Gregory Nazianzen hath writ many epistles. *She died not long after the Council of Nice.*"[2] Here, again, the chronology is of the loosest. That Council was of A.D. 325; S. Gregory's date is *circa* 370.

Nor did this subject escape the notice—at a time long subsequent and under circumstances apparently more favourable—of Lord ELGIN, during his memorable Embassy to the Porte at the beginning of the present century. Dr. J. D. CARLYLE, supported by all the influence which Lord ELGIN could exert in his favour, was commissioned to examine the Ottoman Library. But Dr. CARLYLE's researches were fruitful only in relation to Oriental MSS., which, eighty years ago, were not prized as they are prized now. He entered the Seraglio Library (after difficulties which it taxed all Lord Elgin's diplomatic skill to overcome) with the belief that he was himself "the first Christian" who had been admitted thereunto.[3] He knew nothing of Besnier's[4] visit (1687); of Toderini's[5] (1781 to 1786); or of that of an unnamed Greek interpreter[6] who was employed upon a literary mission by Theodulus, Archbishop of Astracan (also in the eighteenth century). Dr. Carlyle left that library with a deep sigh, that there were "alas! no Greek MSS."; longing for such, it would seem, as though they were "apples of the Hesperides." Those that he did find were Arabic (fully two-thirds of the whole number), Turkish, and Persian.[7] The MSS. which he examined amounted in all to 1,294. And he classified them as shown in the Table opposite.

Shortly after the visit of Dr. Carlyle, the eminent soldier and diplomatist of Napoleon I., Marshal Sebastiani—a lover of books like his great master the Emperor, and like his brother-soldier, Junot—not only gained a like admission, but so won the

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1 Sir T. ROE'S *Negotiations* (edition of the "Society for the Encouragement of Learning" [edited by Richardson the novelist], 500). The letter was written to Dr. Goade.

2 Roe: *Negotiations*, 335: Comp. p. 618.

3 His precise words are: "Never before subjected to the examination of a Christian."

4 *Memoirs relating to . . . . Turkey*, pp. 180, 181.

5 *Della letteratura turchescha.* His words are: "After three years' endeavour I succeeded."

6 *Cours de littérature Grecque Moderne*, as quoted (1827), in *Foreign Quarterly Review*, i. 666.

7 Carlyle: in Walpole's *Memoirs relating to European and Asiatic Turkey.* (Letters of July and Nov. 1800) as above.

favour of the Sultan to whom he was accredited, as to receive permission to take away with him such books as he might choose. He chose only one,—a Greek *New Testament*, of exceptionally beautiful scription. I fear that Napoleon himself would have made a quite different choice in such a circumstance.

NATURE OF THE MSS.	NO. OF MSS.
1. Copies of *Al Koran*	17
2. Commentaries on the same	143
3. Collections relating to Muhammed	182
4. Treatises on Muhammedan Law	324
5. Do. on Logic	95
6. Do. on Mystical Philosophy and on Philosophy generally...	133
7. Do. on Grammar	192
8. Do. on Medicine	31
9. Do. on Poetry and Polite Literature... ...	79
10. Works of History	42
11. Dictionaries and Vocabularies	56
Total	1,294

M. Lebarbier, about a quarter of a century ago, renewed those searches, and made important discoveries, in his turn, amongst *Oriental* manuscripts in several languages and departments, but nothing else.[1] His report on the subject I shall have occasion to quote hereafter. His researches were of profit to the National Library at Paris, the history of which, is, as we have seen so frequently, and so nobly, bound up with the history of leisure hours of French Ambassadors and of French Consuls, resident in various parts of the Levant, at all periods of time. It were much to be wished that our own Lord Elgin's excellent imitation of the example so set, had proved more contagious than it has been amongst British Ambassadors in the East at any subsequent period. Sir Henry Austen Layard, so noble a benefactor to his country and to the world, like his great predecessor at Constantinople in the beginning of the century, is but an exception to the rule.

I close this first section of a most interesting chapter in the annals of Libraries by a glance at the researches of the late Bodleian Librarian, Mr. Henry Octavius Coxe, to whom the British Government entrusted, in 1857, a mission to search the monasteries of the Levant for Greek MSS. Of his eminent attainments as a Greek palæographer it does not become me—from any point of view—to speak. But I may be permitted to bear my not incompetent witness to his possession, in a very high degree, of some other qualifications, scarcely less essential to the task so entrusted to him. Tact in dealing with diversities of men ; skill in turning to good account even the obstructions which could not fail to offer themselves in such a quest ; patience under wearisome delays ; that winning demeanour which is the proper vesture of a kindly heart, are qualities which, in the Envoy of 1857, were found in combination. They commended

[1] *Bulletin des Sociétés Savantes*, Nov. 1854. Also, Guigniaut, *Rapport au nom d'un Comité . . . sur . . . l'Ecole Française d'Athènes ;* printed at length in *Journal Général de l'Instruction Publique*, xxv. 419 (1856).

themselves even to men who, on many points, failed to find themselves in entire accord with the owner of those genial qualities. And they will not easily be forgotten.

In January of that year, Mr. Coxe[1] proceeded from Alexandria to Cairo, where he examined the Library of the Patriarch, and that of the Monastery of St. Katherine. But no results of special value accrued until Jerusalem was visited in the following month. Here, a catalogue was made of a precious series of Greek MSS. preserved in the Library of the Monastery of the Holy Sepulchre. Amongst them were many valuable Biblical volumes of the tenth, eleventh, and twelfth centuries.

At the Convent of Mar-Saba, near the Dead Sea, two collections of manuscripts were examined. Many hitherto uncollated copies of the *Gospels* were found, belonging in part to the tenth, in part to the eleventh, century. In other classes, or sections, what was found was of less mark than had been anticipated, from some previous accounts; founded only, it is probable, on hasty glances at the Library. But there was seen there a very notable Greek Palimpsest, containing a triple text. The earliest was written in uncials, now almost utterly illegible, and was probably, at latest, of the seventh century. Above these appeared the *Orestes* and the *Phœnissæ*, in a hand of the ninth century; and above that again, came a *Commentary on the Greater Prophets*, written in the eleventh century.

In the Library of the Archbishop of Nicosia some curious *Lives of the Saints* were found, which belong apparently to the tenth century. Neither Candia nor Crete supplied anything that repaid the pains of search. But at Milo, several Patristic MSS. were purchased for Bodley's Library, some of which had been brought to Milo from Patmos.

At Patmos itself was found a copy of the *Book of Job* of high antiquity; it is written on vellum and in uncials. Its inspection was most attentively watched by the bishop, supported by two of his monks, who watched not less carefully over its safe return to its box. "No money," was the attendant's remark, "will tempt us to part with our *Job!*" Some rumours of certain racy conversations with other monks, narrated in the late Lord Zouche's *Visits to Monasteries of the Levant*, had perhaps arrived at Patmos.

Mr. Coxe examined, during his tour, a host of other MSS.—Biblical, Theological and Classical; but they rarely presented features of commanding interest, though far from being devoid of literary value. Lectionaries were found to occur frequently, as might be expected. One of these was a gem in its class. It was an Old Testament *Lectionary*, written in uncials of the eighth century. These labours were broken off by a serious illness just as the learned and able Envoy was about to enter on a new field of research. His *Report on the Levant MSS.* will well repay perusal. It is now rare, and ought to be reprinted. The piece would be one memorial the more of an able and zealous bibliographer who has left many other honourable memorials of a most laborious, exemplary, and fruitful life. It was printed in a very small impression; dealt with—as well in regard to individual scholars as to Libraries—in the way of presentation, with that narrow-minded and most curious penuriousness which marks our "Stationery Office" so characteristically, and so invariably. And the *Report* is now not easily to be had by purchase.

[1] To whom I have to acknowledge my obligation for the kind communication of the notes of his tour.

ESTIMATE OF THE CONTENTS OF THE BRITISH MUSEUM LIBRARY.

By J. P. Anderson, *of the British Museum.*

In the year 1838 the number of printed books in the Library of the British Museum was reckoned at 235,000, and in 1849 at 435,000. The latter was the last occasion on which the number was precisely ascertained by regularly counting the volumes. In the account of the Library of the British Museum furnished to the *Transactions of the Conference of Librarians*, held in London in October, 1877 (pp. 220-231), an approximate estimate appears by Mr. Bullen, Keeper of the Printed Books, according to which there were then 1,250,000 volumes in the Library.

The result of an examination recently made by the writer of this communication would seem to prove Mr. Bullen's estimate, allowing for the average annual increase since its date, to have been wonderfully correct.

It has not of course been practicable to count the volumes one by one, but the following figures are offered with some confidence as an approximately accurate return of the number of printed volumes at present to be found in the Library of the British Museum.

The total number of volumes according to this estimate amounts to 1,356,000. This total is thus made up—taking the principal rooms and collections with the respective number of volumes contained in each :—

Large Room	73,095	volumes
First Supplementary ditto	37,790	,,
Second ditto ditto	36,530	,,
Arched Room	62,239	,,
Cracherode Collection	14,755	,,
Banksian ditto	13,870	,,
Music ditto	32,330	,,
King's Library	88,000	,,
Grenville ditto	20,560	,,
Corridors and Angles of New Library	473,440	,,
Academies and Periodicals	136,755	,,
Circular Galleries (two) outside Reading Room.	135,000	,,
Newspapers	50,000	,,
Reading Room (Ground Floor and first Gallery)	40,000	,,
Oriental Room	36,000	,,
Minor Collections	105,636	,,
	1,356,000	

It must be understood that the above enumeration applies to volumes, and not to separate works. Many works contain a number of volumes, but on the other hand a very large number of pamphlets are bound together, so as to form but one volume. The proportion of volumes of pamphlets may be estimated at 2 per cent. of the entire col-

lection. There are also 131 guard books, containing a vast number of single sheets; and of works on vellum the Library is in possession of nearly 800.

The number of presses is about 6000, and the entire length of the shelves is probably upwards of thirty miles.

THE NEW PUBLIC LIBRARY AT LEEDS.

As most of our readers are already aware, the new Library forms part of a handsome and sumptuous pile of buildings intended also to accommodate the Municipal Offices of the borough. The entrance to the Library is by a side-door in Centenary Street, the main entrance from Calverley Street, with a very elaborate portico, vestibule and entrance hall, being appropriated to the Municipal offices.

We have slightly condensed the present account from an excellent and authoritative description of the library premises in the *Leeds Mercury*, and in our next number we propose to offer some observations upon some of the features of the buildings from the standpoint of the practical librarian.

A dozen granite steps from the side door in Centenary Street bring us to the ground floor. A turn to the right, and we are in the News-room. This apartment—80 ft. long by 40 ft. wide—is divided into a broad nave and aisles by an arcade of six arches, carried upon polished granite pillars. Each pillar has a granite base, with capital carved in ever-varying style, so that no one is exactly like its neighbour. Upon the pillars rest semi-circular stone arches, which give form to the vaulted ceiling. The treatment of the ceiling is somewhat original—a sort of bright mosaic work in hexagon bricks, red, buff, grey and blue, with golden bosses. The design, too, is hexagonal, each figure being made the nucleus of another. The iron beams supporting the segmental vaults of the ceiling are richly decorated in colours and gold. The rivets are taken as the central point of ornament, while the principal bosses are perforated, and serve as extract flues for vitiated air. The walls are tiled throughout, the lower portion for about three feet being executed in rich dark colours, to form a dado as high as the granite bases of the columns. A richly figured and embossed diaper tile of grey-greenish tint covers the general wall-surface. This tile is carried to the height of the capitals of the granite pillars, where it finishes in a band of brighter tiles with gilded panels. Above are other panels harmonising with the general tone, and containing medallion busts of representative authors—Shakspeare, Homer, Milton, Goethe, Burns, Scott, Horace and Macaulay, specially modelled by Mr. B. Creswick. Overhead runs a diaper frieze in gold and turquoise blue, while the ends of the vaults are finished in gold mosaic. The floor is laid in oak, walnut and ebony. The furniture will be of walnut. Sloping desks for newspapers are to fill the aisles. Long tables will occupy the central space, and close to the door is a semi-octagonal counter of walnut with carved lime-tree fittings. Every attention has been paid to the ventilation of the room, and electricity will be the only night-light. Clusters of incandescent lamps hang from the centres of the bays of each aisle and from each bay of the nave, making seventy-two lamps, with an illuminating power equal to that of

1,440 candles. Six windows from the south and one in the courtyard on the north give as much daylight as can reasonably be expected from a narrow street shut in by high buildings. The heating will be done by means of hot water-pipes. The general effect of the room is highly artistic, its character being Romanesque, carried out in detail with more refinement than is usual in that style.

Passing through a pair of folding walnut doors set in a richly moulded pitch pine screen and flanked by pilasters of Caen stone, we again reach the staircase and are confronted by a Caen stone arch—the ghost of a ladies' reading-room. This arch marks what was intended as the entrance to a reading-room for ladies. "Pressure upon space" is said to have compelled the abandonment of this separate apartment, and all that remains of the project is a Caen stone arch which is anything but an ornament. This portion of the staircase presents an infinite variety of design and colour. The walls are lined with glazed tiles giving a rich dado and a moulded skirting in chocolate with a general surface of drab, blue, and white. The ceilings also are varied with great taste. Over the outer vestibule the pattern is interlaced. The grand staircase has a barrow-vaulted roof divided into square panels with circular centres and moulded ribs. As we mount an easy flight of steps, something in the nature of a surprise is produced by a cross view of the inner hall, whose delicate carvings may be traced under the flood of light which falls from the lantern roof high overhead. Within a recess at the top of this flight is a black marble seat, and higher still a lavatory.

And now we are on a level with the Lending Library, into which we pass through double swing doors of pitch pine, the panels of which are filled in with coloured figures of the Muses Thalia and Calliope, the side lights and fanlights being of grisaille glass. The general arrangement of the Lending Library corresponds with that of the News-room beneath. Nave, aisles and windows occupy similar positions. Though alike in form, the difference between the two apartments is striking. Terracotta here takes the place of granite, and gives a peculiarly rich and warm effect. Both pillars and arches are in terra-cotta. The ceiling is vaulted in concrete, finished with plaster, divided into ornamental panels, having moulded ribs and coloured decorations. The prevailing tone is a subdued cream-tint, the ornamental features of which are brought out by means of gold. No attempt is made to disguise the iron beams, which are treated artistically. The walls of the nave for a height of ten feet are finished with figured Lincrusta-Walton. The nave, which is set apart for public use, is enclosed on the south by a counter for the delivery of books, and at intervals will stand indicators for 40,000 volumes. Immediately behind the counters are bookcases of American walnut, closed with holland blinds upon spring rollers. The counter itself is worth close inspection as a fine specimen of cabinet work. Bays are formed upon the front surface by shafts of greenheart, with bases of walnut, dados of mahogany, and carved caps of limetree. Inlaid ornaments of purple, holly and ebony woods add their effect to the walnut panels, with inner and outer stiles of oak and mahogany. When lighted by numerous clusters of electric light, the Lending Library will be one of the pleasantest public rooms in the town. On the same level, and within the same walls, is a small apartment—32 ft. square—intended for museum purposes. The Museum is reached through a broad low quaint arch of terra-cotta, at the west end of the Lending Library. It is a plain apartment, without pretensions to decorative display. The only effort in this direction is on the ceiling, which finishes in a cornice with ornamental soffit and frieze in colour and gold. Like the Lending Library, this room is heated

by hot-water pipes running in channels under a grating on the floor. The furniture will consist of air-tight polished ebony cases, glazed with plate glass, and so arranged that they can be converted into double show-cases.

Ascending another short staircase, and catching a third glance at the inner hall, we reach the Reference Library. This room extends over the Lending Library and Museum. It has considerable architectural pretensions, and gives greater scope for display because of its height—36 feet from floor to roof. Terra-cotta arches divide the room into aisles and nave, and support a gallery used for library purposes. Within the aisles are small studies, accessible through doors in the counters, and shut in on three sides by book-cases of walnut. In addition to the shelves which stand along the north and south walls, there is at the east end a handsome range of bookcases with plate-glass doors. These are intended for the more valuable books, and are supplemented by sliding shelves, to enable the librarians to withdraw heavy and costly bound books without doing damage to the covers. Near to the entrance on the north side is an attendants' counter in close connexion with the Librarian's private staircase, and with a small hydraulic hoist for conveying books to and from the gallery. The private staircase, we may mention in passing, gives access to the various departments of the Library, including a comfortable and well-lighted committee-room. The west end of the Reference Library forms, as it were, a separate room, reached by a segmental arch on the main floor, and by a semi-circular arch on the gallery floor. The arrangements on the gallery are pretty much the same as those below. Here are bookcases and shelves without number, and little studies whose very appearance ought to excite desire. Having made ourselves acquainted with the scheme of arrangement, we return to the main floor in order to take a general view of its architectural features. The room is lofty, and gains a semblance of extent by the use of mirrors formed into ornamental panels, and fitted into the semicircular ends over the gallery. Surrounding the panels are rich mouldings with ebony shafts and purple wood bases, further divided by oak mouldings, gilded to show the grain. Visitors to Sir John Soane's Museum in London will remember how effective in display are mirrors fixed in this manner. The roof is semicircular and is divided into bays by wrought-iron principals carried on moulded stone corbels. It is deeply moulded and panelled in pitch and yellow pine, picked out in quiet, warm colours. There is plenty of light. Each study has its own window on both floors, while every bay of the nave has a three-light clerestory window, filled with cathedral glass in ornamental patterns. In addition to this a top-light is arranged in each bay of the ceiling. At night electric lamps will be used in the studies, in the nave, and in standards along the front of the gallery. This gallery is a handsome piece of work. The front is formed into bays of walnut and mahogany, with richly figured pitch pine panels divided by shafts, bases, and caps of greenheart. Surmounting the panel is an elaborately carved cornice, upon which rest a broad shelf of walnut. The fittings of the room are in keeping with the prevailing tone. On the same level with the gallery are an infirmary for the cure of dilapidated volumes and a room for unpacking and preparing fresh arrivals. An admirable addition to the convenience of searchers after information has been introduced on the level of the main room. This is in the shape of a well-lighted apartment—50 ft. by 30 ft.—for the reception and storage of newspapers, and Patent and Parliamentary papers. Running round the central area is a counter, the top of which may be lifted as as to give a convenient sloping rest for

a file of newspapers. The counter is of richly figured pitch pine, with mahogany top, and walnut and mahogany mouldings. All papers will be deposited in cases along three sides of the room, the shelves on the fourth side being reserved for books about to be transferred to branch libraries. Within easy reach from the attendants' counter are the Committee-room, furnished in oak and mahogany, and a series of rooms for the accommodation of the officials—a Waiting-room, Luncheon-room, Unpacking-room, and Retiring-room.

PROPOSED SUPPLEMENT TO POOLE'S INDEX TO PERIODICAL LITERATURE.

We have received from Dr. Poole a proof-copy of a circular which he and Mr. Fletcher are about to issue, inviting subscribers to the first supplement to his Index. We are very glad to print this circular for the information of our readers, and we hope that the publicity thus given to the proposal may secure a sufficient number of subscribers on this side of the Atlantic to justify the undertaking. No words of commendation from us can be needed in the case of those who are already familiar with the principal work. We must indeed confess that we were a little surprised to learn from Dr. Poole that "the number of copies of my Index of 1882, taken in Great Britain and on the Continent, is less than 250. One half as many have been taken by private buyers in Chicago alone, which is not a literary city." This being the case, however, we are not of course surprised to learn that there is still a very heavy balance against what must have been in respect of print and paper a very expensive book. As the proposed supplements are purely a labour of love, we trust that the appeal for assistance and support put out by our American colleagues will meet with a prompt and hearty response. We will now let Dr. Poole and Mr. Fletcher speak for themselves :—

SUPPLEMENT TO POOLE'S INDEX.

The first Supplement to Poole's "Index to Periodical Literature," covering, for the years 1882 and 1883, all the current periodicals indexed in the main work, and about thirty-five additional serials, is completed and will be put to press at an early day, *provided* there is a prompt and cordial response to this circular.

Our report on the subject made to the American Library Association at its annual meeting at Buffalo, in August last, may be found in the *Library Journal* for Sept. and Oct. 1883 (vol. VIII. p. 194), with a list of the periodicals indexed and the names of the contributors. Without repeating the details of that report, we may here say that it is our purpose—if it can be done without pecuniary loss to ourselves—to issue hereafter Annual Supplements, which every five years will be re-arranged, condensed in one volume, and issued in a style uniform in all respects with the main work.

For meeting the expense of issuing the first Supplement and the subsequent Annual Supplements, the following scheme has been decided upon, after mature deliberation :

The editors and contributors will expect no profit or pecuniary compensation for their work ; and hence the expense will be only the cost of composition, paper, press-work and binding. This cost will be assessed *pro rata* upon the copies subscribed for in advance of publication. No more copies will be printed than will supply the subscribers and contributors; and hence no copies will be put in the trade.

We find that the first Supplement will contain more matter than we anticipated, and that it promises to make a volume of four hundred pages, of the size of the *Library Journal*, in

minion type. We have proposals from several first-class printers ; but none, on the whole, are more favourable than those from Messrs. JOHN WILSON AND SON, of the University Press, Cambridge, whose work on the edition of 1882 was so creditable. They propose to furnish three hundred and thirty-five copies, of which three hundred will go to subscribers, and thirty-five to contributors, for $1910 or five hundred and thirty-five copies for $1985·50. The incidental expenses in addition to the above estimates will be small. With three hundred subscribers the cost per copy will be about $6·50 ; and with five hundred, it will be about $4·15. With a larger edition the cost will be proportionally reduced.

As we, the undersigned, assume the responsibility of paying these bills, and expect no pay for our work, it is a fair deal that we should not incur the risk of a pecuniary loss. We hope that the number of subscribers will reduce the cost of the volume to $3 and even less. In order, however, that our subscribers may have the assurance that they are not incurring an unknown responsibility, it will be mutually understood that no subscription is binding until the number of copies subscribed for reaches three hundred. If the number of subscriptions does not reach three hundred, we shall further understand that Annual Supplements are not wanted, and that the rich material we have in hand can await publication until the first five-year Supplement is issued in 1887.

We look for a prompt response to this circular, and the cordial co-operation of our associates in the American Library Association, and of our professional brethren in the Library Association of the United Kingdom, in making the list of subscribers as large, and the price per copy as small, as possible. Mr. B. F. STEVENS, 4, Trafalgar Square, Charing Cross, London, will act as our agent for Great Britain and the Continent. No limit is set upon the number of copies each subscriber may take. As the edition will be limited, the work will be rare and much sought for after publication. It will, therefore, be prudent to subscribe for extra copies for friends who may not receive this circular.

WILLIAM F. POOLE,
Librarian, Chicago Public Library.

WILLIAM I. FLETCHER,
Librarian, Amherst College Library.

ODE FOR THE OPENING OF THE TORONTO FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY.

[The following lines were written for the opening ceremony of the Toronto Free Public Library, by Mr. Henderson, a student of Toronto University, and were recited by their author on that occasion.]

Let there be Light! The word divine was spoken
In the dim dawn of earth's awakening hour,
When Chaos, trembling, felt the links were broken
That bound the formless void beneath its power:

When God's own Spirit brooded o'er the deep,
And moved above the waste of formless things,
Till life and soul emerged, as with a leap,
And reason flashed with light upon its wings.

Yet even now, with ages long completed,
How tardy still the glimmering dawn of day;
How long the strife e'er, bigot foes defeated,
Wisdom is owned and ignorance gives way.

The righteousness that should exalt and bless
The nations, lingers still with fitful gleam ;
The Golden Age, with all its grand redress
And brotherhood for man, is yet a dream.

What of the coming ages' promised prize ?
What, watchman, of the dawn ? What of the night ?
Say, does the morning break : the day-star rise ?
Is there some prelude of the longed-for light ?

To-day we answer from our New World home,
As here we dedicate this modest shrine
To letters ; praying that from thence may come
From Wisdom's ample page a light divine ;

Giving free converse with the good and wise ;
Free access to the thought-illumined page,
Whence still to latest times, in living guise
Shall speak for all, historian, poet, sage.

Nor grudge Romance's quaint beguiling mask ;
Let Truth the masquerade of Fiction wear,
To ease the toil-worn labourer at his task,
And with the charm of Fancy banish care.

Make Knowledge ample as the air we breathe,
Its influence free as is the light of heaven ;
As He whose rain and sunshine all beneath
Unstinted share ; so let soul-light be given.

Spread wide the historic page to ardent youth ;
With liberal hand to manhood give the right
To drink deep draughts from the pure wells of truth ;
Hasten the coming time : Let there be Light !

The Library Chronicle.

The LIBRARY CHRONICLE *is issued on the 15th of the month, and communications, books for review, etc., intended for the forthcoming number should be addressed, not later than the 10th of the month, to the Hon. Editor,* ERNEST C. THOMAS, *care of Messrs. J. Davy & Sons, 137, Long Acre, W.C.*

The attention of librarians and library committees, of publishers and booksellers, is called to the advantages of the CHRONICLE *(which represents at least 250 libraries) as an advertising medium. Advertisements of Library Vacancies, and of Books Wanted, or Duplicates for Sale or Exchange by Libraries are inserted at low rates.*

Members of the Library Association whose subscription for the current year has been paid are entitled to receive the CHRONICLE.

Remittances, subscriptions, and advertisements should be sent to Mr. E. M. BORRAJO, *care of the Publishers.*

The Library Association cannot be responsible for the views expressed by the contributors to the CHRONICLE.

The Library Association.

The next Monthly Meeting of the Association will be held on Friday evening, June 6, at 8 p.m., at the London Institution, when a Paper will be read by Mr. W. R. Douthwaite on "Humpfrey Wanley."

MAY MONTHLY MEETING.

The May Monthly Meeting was held May 2, at 8 p.m., at the London Institution, Mr. W. J. Haggerston in the chair.

It was announced that Mr. J. ANGUS, Librarian, Institute Library, Kirkcudbright, and Mr. H. R. HALL, Sub-Librarian, Radcliffe Library, Oxford, had become Members of the Association; and that the Public Libraries of BOLTON, LIVERPOOL, RICHMOND (Surrey) and ST. HELENS had joined the Association.

Mr. A. JAURALDE, 62, Ellington Street, Arundel Square, N., and Mr. C. A. THIMM, 54, Torrington Square, W.C., having been duly proposed at the previous meeting, were then elected Members of the Association.

The Rev. B. H. BLACKER, 26, Meridian Place, Clifton, and Mr. W. GEORGE, 3, King's Parade, Clifton, were proposed by Mr. E. R. Norris Matthews, and seconded by the Secretary; Mr. J. GALWAY was proposed by Mr. W. J. Haggerston, and seconded by the Secretary; Mrs. H. PARK, Mayoress of Wigan, was proposed by the Treasurer, and seconded by the Secretary; Dr. A. K. ROLLIT, Mayor of Hull, was proposed by Mr. W. W. Morrell, and seconded by the Secretary; and Mr. W. B. SLATER, 249, Camden Road, N., was proposed by the Secretary, and seconded by the Treasurer, for election at the next Meeting.

The Chairman then called upon the Secretary to read (1) a Paper by Mr. Edward Edwards on "Researches in the Libraries of the Levant," and (2) a Paper by Mr. E. C. Thomas on "The Office of King's Printer." After a short discussion, votes of thanks were unanimously carried to Mr. Edwards and Mr. Thomas for their papers.

The Hon. Secretary has received a telegram from Mr. R. R. Bowker, dated May 3rd, announcing that the Toronto Library Meeting has been fixed for the 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th of September, and that it is proposed to arrange a visit to Niagara on the 7th of September.

Library Echoes.

The announcement from our friend Mr. Bowker will serve as a forcible reminder that we are within an easily measurable distance of the Toronto Meeting. It is much to be desired that English librarians may be represented by some of the leading members of the profession.

A visit of English librarians has been so long talked of that it would be very unfortunate if the delegation of the English Library Association should be conspicuous for the absence of librarians.

In our present Number we are able to present our readers with a really reliable estimate of the contents of the National Library. We also reproduce a paragraph which has gone the round of the daily press as to the collections of the *Bibliothèque Nationale*, though we might wish to have a more satisfactory voucher for it.

We are amused to notice that the

editor of a contemporary, in quoting this paragraph, speaks of it as a *revelation*. As this organ stoutly insisted just twelve months ago that the *Bibliothèque Nationale* had only something over *half a million* volumes, and poured contempt upon the Editor of MONTHLY NOTES for dissenting from this estimate, the term is not altogether inappropriate. But the facts are no revelation to us!

Coming back to our own libraries, it will be a matter of regret that the dismemberment of the Library of the Museum of Practical Geology appears to be irrevocably settled. It is surely unfortunate that in London, which has not too many libraries, the work of years should be undone by a stroke of the pen.

The formation of such a library as that of which Mr. Newton has been in charge for so long in Jermyn Street is the work of many years. Its dissolution may be the effect of a momentary caprice.

The adoption of the Acts at Aberdeen seems to have rekindled feelings of regret in Edinburgh. The *Scotsman* of May 3, in a somewhat despondent article, observes: "The old Athens was one of the earliest cities to possess a public library; there seems some possibility that the modern Athens will be one of the last."

Mr. Judge reminds us that the Worcester Public Library is the sixth Free Public Library to adopt the policy of Sunday opening. We are content to record the fact. The public librarian regards himself as Servus Servorum Populi. In this, as in many other matters, he considers it his duty to follow, and not to guide public opinion. To attempt to do otherwise might imperil his usefulness in other and still more important matters.

We issue with this number a list of the Contents of Leading Periodicals, printed on our Interleaf, and we propose to combine the entries so as to form an Annual Index, if we find the idea to approve itself to our readers.

We have to express our regret that the continued pressure on our space compels us to hold over notices of several Library Catalogues and Reports which are already in type.

EDITOR.

Library Notes and News.

HOME.

CAMBRIDGE.—The new Archæological Museum was formally opened by the Vice-Chancellor, on May 6th. Among the speakers were the American Minister, Lord Houghton, Sir F. Leighton, Mr. C. T. Newton (of the British Museum), Prof. Jebb, Mr. J. W. Clark and Prof. E. A. Freeman, besides Prof. Colvin, who may be called the founder of the Museum, and Dr. C. Waldstein, its first director. The building has been about a year in construction at a cost of about £72,000. It consists of five galleries, besides a lecture theatre and library.

DARWEN: FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY.—The annual meeting of the ratepayers was held on Monday evening, March 3rd, Mr. N. Jepson, Chairman of the Library Commissioners presiding, to receive the annual report, which was read by Mr. Neville, and of which we shall give an abstract elsewhere. The Chairman reviewed the progress of the Free Library Movement during the year and moved that a rate of 1d. be levied for the coming year. It was stated that this might, perhaps, be the last rate the ratepayers would be called upon to levy, as under the Libraries Bill the library would be supported from the Borough Fund.

DUBLIN.—The plans for the new buildings for the National Library of Ireland submitted by Mr. Deane, have been recommended for adoption, but the selection still awaits the confirmation of the Treasury authorities.

HUCKNALL TORKARD.—At a public meeting, held at the Local Board Offices, on April 30th, in pursuance of a requisition presented to the Chairman, it was

decided to adopt the Free Libraries' Acts for the district. The motion for their adoption was moved by Mr. W. Calladine, the Chairman of the Board, who presided, seconded by the Vicar, the Rev. J. E. Phillips, and carried unanimously. It was stated that an offer of £2,000 had been made for the erection of the building.

LEEDS.—The new Municipal Offices and Free Public Library, which have been erected at a cost of over £100,000., were formally opened by the Mayor on April 17th. In the evening a banquet was given by the Mayor, and among the guests were Sir W. Vernon Harcourt, the Right Hon. G. J. Goschen, and the Right Hon. W. E. Forster. The speeches made on the occasion were remarkable for the scanty reference made to the Library. Mr. Forster, however, reminded the Home Secretary that he would be able to hold out for the imitation of Londoners "the magnificent and sumptuous library which has been opened to-day." On the following day, the Mayor gave an entertainment to about 1,500 members of the working classes. An account of the part of the new building devoted to the Library will be found on another page of the present number.

LONDON: MESSRS. BRABY & CO.'S LIBRARY.—The Fourteenth Annual Meeting of the Library and Club connected with this firm was held on Saturday, May 10th, at the works, Ida Wharf, Deptford. The President, Mr. Frederick Braby, was in the chair, and among the speakers were Messrs. Alfred Moore, W. J. Evelyn, J.P., and E. C. Thomas. The Hon. Sec. and Librarian, Mr. G. R. Humphery, reported that more use had been made of the library than in any previous year, and that the stock has been increased to 1,850 volumes. A very enjoyable evening was spent together by the members of the Club.

LONDON: INTERNATIONAL HEALTH EXHIBITION.—The Executive Council have appointed Mr. Carl A. Thimm librarian of the collection being formed at the exhibition. Authors, publishers, and others are invited to send copies of works on subjects embraced in either of the two divisions of the exhibition—health and education. The books received will be classified and catalogued and made available for use in the library and reading-room by the public visiting the exhibition. A catalogue will be printed. All packages should be forwarded, *carriage paid*, to the Librarian, Royal Albert Hall, S.W.

LONDON: MUSEUM OF PRACTICAL GEOLOGY.—The threatened disruption of this well-known library is now taking place. Only the books relating to geology and mining are to be left in Jermyn Street; the works on other departments of Science are being removed to the Education Library at South Kensington Museum. The important series of Transactions and scientific periodicals are also to go to South Kensington, so that the Jermyn Street Collection will be robbed of much of its value even in those subjects which it is to retain. The valuable catalogue of the library, prepared by Messrs. White and Newton, which was issued in 1878, will no longer be a representation of the books in Jermyn Street.

NEWARK: STOCK LIBRARY.—We regret that owing to a misunderstanding of a passage in our correspondent's letter, the paragraph under this heading in our last issue is calculated to convey an erroneous impression. The arrangements for the proposed catalogue have been discussed by the Committee only with their own Librarian, Mr. Midworth.

OXFORD: BODLEIAN LIBRARY.—The Bodleian Librarian has issued a notice that he will thankfully accept: 1. Any book or pamphlet not in the Library, and particularly such as have been printed privately, or in the Counties of Berks, Bucks and Oxon. 2. Any reports, programmes, circulars, etc., however trivial, printed in these counties. 3. Christmas, New Year, Easter, birthday, wedding and funeral cards; valentines, menu cards, play bills, stamp and crest collections, etc. 4. Photographs or engraved portraits of authors—in the widest sense of the word—with the view of forming a national portrait gallery of literature.

OXFORD: RADCLIFFE LIBRARY.—Mr. H. R. Hall has been appointed to succeed Mr. J. B. Bailey as Sub-librarian of this Library.

SWANSEA.—The Property Committee of the Corporation, on April 28th, selected four out of the twelve designs submitted

for the new Free Library and Art Gallery, and it has been referred to the President of the Royal Institute of British Architects to advise the Council which of the four designs appear to him to be the most suitable for the purpose.

WORCESTER.—It was resolved, on May 6th, by the Council, that in future the Hastings Museum shall be open to the public on Sunday afternoons. The resolution was carried by a large majority.

On May 2nd, a Paper was read at the United Service Institution, by Captain Samuel Long, R.N., on "Libraries considered as Subsidiary to Education, and on the best means of diffusing information among Officers and Men of Her Majesty's Navy." The chair was occupied by Admiral A. P. Ryder.

FOREIGN.

CAIRO.—Mr. Stanley Lane-Poole has sent to the *Athenæum* (April 12th), two reports from Franz Bey and Rogers Bey, from which it appears that there is no truth in the rumours that the Khedivial Library at Cairo was being despoiled of its treasures. The library appears, however, not to be suitably housed, and it is unfortunate that no European has a voice in its direction.

GÖTTINGEN.—Dr. A. Wilmanns, the University Librarian, contributes to the *Centralblatt* a long obituary notice of Dr. Gustav Löwe, whose early death we mentioned in our first number. The list of his writings given by Dr. Wilmanns shows how industrious a worker has been lost in Löwe. A notice was contributed by M. Émile Chatelain to the *Revue de Philologie* for January.

PARIS: BIBLIOTHÈQUE NATIONALE.—The *Bibliographie de la France* states that the stocktaking of this library has just been made with the result that the number of volumes now reaches 2,500,000. The department of MSS., has 92,000 MSS., and 144,000 coins and medals. The collection of engravings numbers over 2,000,000 articles. The 'Galerie de la réserve' contains 80,000 of the most valuable volumes. The number of readers in the year 1883 was 70,000.

PARIS: MINISTÈRE DES POSTES.—The Library of this department under the care of M. Cochery has been greatly enlarged, and now numbers some 8,000 volumes. The Library is open from 9 A.M. to 10 P.M.

ST. PETERSBURG.—It is announced that the Ministry of Public Instruction is about to collect statistics of the private libraries in Russia of over 10,000 volumes, and to compile lists of the books contained in them.

STOCKHOLM.—We owe to the courtesy of Dr. Bernhard Lundstedt the Annual Report of the Royal Library for 1883, to which is annexed an interesting Bibliography of the Literature of St. Bridget, extending to 99 pages, compiled by the Librarian, G. E. Klemming.

TORONTO: PUBLIC LIBRARY. — Mr. Bain writes to us (April 15th), "I managed to get my library opened last week, but fear that the summer will go by before I can fairly get things in order. I have 23,000 books on the shelves and nearly 6,000 in my two branches. During the first ten days we have issued 2,600 readers' tickets."

THE March number of the *Library Journal* (the last to hand), contains an address delivered by Prof. Moses Coit Tyler, at the dedication of the Sage Library at West Bay City, Mich., on January 16th, on "The Historic Evolution of the Free Public Library and its true function in the Community."

THE May number of the *Centralblatt für Bibliothekswesen* contains an article "On the recent debates in the Prussian Houses of Parliament on the Prussian Library System," by Dr. Hartwig, and another on the "Copenhagen University Library before 1728," by K. Verner.

Prof. Hermann Hagen contributes to Dr. Petzholdt's *Anzeiger* for May an account of two mediæval catalogues which he has found in the Library at Geneva.

THE May number of *Le Livre* contains several articles upon libraries. The first treats of the Library of Marie-Antoinette. Another is devoted to the Library of the Senate, and M. Forgues devotes the first of a series of articles on the "Cabinets de Travail et Bibliothèques" of contemporary authors to M. Alphonse Daudet.

Library Catalogues and Reports.

Borough of Nottingham. Free Public Libraries. Class List (No. 3) and Supplement of Books in the Reference Library . . . . . F.—Science . . . . . Nottingham, 1884. Price 3d. 8vo, pp. 43.

The books in this list are arranged under ten heads, with a cross reference from every author to the principal entry. The contents of memoirs of learned societies and the reports of the Smithsonian Institution are very fully set out. On the inside of the cover a list of magazines and newspapers on the tables and stands of the reference library, the ladies' reading room, and the general reading rooms is given.

Penrith Free Public Library and Museum. Catalogue of the Lending Library. Penrith, 1883. Price 6d. 8vo, pp. iii, 73.

This is the Catalogue of a library of 4,000 volumes, compiled on the Classification System, for which arrangement the Committee express a preference. The catalogue is divided into nine classes, followed by addenda and a selected list of works in the reference library. Under class 6 (magazines) a short selection of the contents of each volume is supplied.

Rotherham Free Public Library. Catalogue. Rotherham, 1883. 8vo, pp. 172, double col.

This Catalogue, which is compiled upon the Dictionary System, has been carefully prepared. The contents of collectaneous works are set out, and the subject entries are very complete. The library, established in 1880, appears to have been formed with sound judgment. The catalogue, which comprises all books received up to September 29th last, is very well printed, and the nature of the entry is indicated by corresponding varieties of type.

Preston. The Fifth Annual Report of the Committee of the Free Public Library and Museum of the Borough of Preston, for the year ending December 31st, 1883. Preston. 8vo. pp. 15.

The Committee record with satisfaction the commencement of the erection of the Harris Free Public Library and Museum in the month of October last. Mr. Bramwell reports that the number of volumes in the library is now 11,566. The issues of books have been 102,566 volumes, being 10,145 volumes in excess of last year. The percentage of fiction was 69·62. Out of the revenue of £1,797. 1s. 2d. a museum and observatory are supported, and the new year was commenced with the very satisfactory balance in hand of £978. 2s. 4d.

Borough of Rotherham. The Third Annual Report of the Committee of the Free Public Library . . . Rotherham. 8vo, pp. 12.

The stock of books has been considerably increased during the year by the addition of 2,173 volumes, making a present total of 6,967. Of the additions 1,904 were acquired by purchase. The list of borrowers has been increased by 880, and the number of books issued amounted to 49,293, which is 5,807 in excess of the previous year. The Committee look forward to the necessity of soon having to provide further accommodation both for the storage of books and for reading-room purposes. Appended to the report is a description of the donation of books, etc., received from the British Museum. It should be added that of the total number of issues given above 40,611 are classed as prose fiction.

Borough of Salford. Thirty-fifth Annual Report of the Museum, Libraries and Parks Committee, 1882-83. [Dated 23rd October, 1883]. Salford. 8vo, pp. 27.

The gross issues of books from the reference and the four lending libraries amount to 338,964 volumes, showing a decrease of 26,401 over the previous year. This falling off is attributed to the want of a larger supply of new literature to the lending libraries. The Committee look forward hopefully to the passing of the amended Free Libraries Act, in order to enable them to increase the expenditure in all the libraries, the penny rate being quite inadequate to the proper maintenance of four separate departments. Full statistical tables are appended to the report.

San Francisco. Thirty-first Annual Report of the President, Treasurer, and Librarian of the Mercantile Library Association of San Francisco, 1883. San Francisco, 1884. 8vo, pp. 30.

The President reports that the decline in the prosperity of the institution continues, and attributes it to its "remoteness from the resident portion of the town." The receipts fell

from 14,173 dols. in 1882 to 12,678 dols. in 1883. The number of members fell to 1,004—a decrease of 65. The Librarian (Mr. A. E. Whitaker) reports that the accessions of books were 1,386 volumes, and that the total stock is 52,751 volumes. The volumes circulated during the year were 35,786, a decrease of about 3,000 volumes.

Borough of Sheffield. Twenty-seventh Annual Report of the Committee of the Free Public Libraries and Museum . . . Comprising the Twelve Months from Sept. 1st, 1882, to Aug. 31st, 1883 . . . Sheffield, 1883. 8vo, pp. 18.

The Committee regret that adequate provision cannot be made for the growing wants of the borough. The estimated receipts of the current year are £5,055, and the payments £4,943. The debt requires an annual payment of principal and interest to the amount of £1,212, so that only three-quarters of the rate is available for maintenance. There is pressing need for space in the Central Library. The issues from the Central and Branch Libraries for home reading amounted to 387,219, or a daily average of 1,393 volumes, an increase of 33,169 and 120 respectively; 124,807 volumes of the above total were issued from the Central Library, the percentage of fiction being 61·33. From the Reference Department 28,473 volumes were issued, being a daily average of 101—an increase of 2,190 and eight respectively. 1,802 volumes, of which 1,438 were purchased, have been added to the Central Library, the stock of which now stands at 37,135. Only two books are reported as lost.

Borough of Swansea. Ninth Annual Report of the Public Library and Gallery of Art Committee, 1882-83. [Dated October 30th, 1883]. Swansea, November, 1883. 8vo, pp. 19.

The total issues from the reference library have been 72,969 (including periodicals), an increase of 1,322. From the lending library 46,711 volumes were issued, being 9,086 in excess of last year. A day census taken on a Saturday in the reading-room gave a total of 1,073 visits. The total number of volumes and pamphlets in the library is 26,129. The Committee complain that the building in which the library is placed, is inconvenient and very defective, and regret that the Commissioners of the Treasury have refused permission for money to be raised for the purpose of erecting a new edifice.

Borough of Wigan. Free Public Library. Sixth Annual Report of the Librarian. February, 1884. Wigan, 1884. 8vo, pp. 22.

Mr. Folkard reports that the issues in the reference library have been 11,838, an increase of 821 on the previous year. In the lending library 57,046 volumes have been issued, an increase of 6,187. The popularity of the news-room is shown by an attendance during the year of nearly a quarter of a million, over 11,000 of which have been on Sundays. 622 volumes have been added during the year, making the total number in the library 26,850.

From a review of the year "1883," in the *Pharmaceutical Journal* for January 5th, we learn that there has again been a marked increase in the attendance in the library, the numbers having been 6,011 in the day time, and 1,764 in the evening, against 4,260 and 1,513 in 1882. 3,240 books have been taken out from the library, or within a dozen of the number of the previous year. About 300 books and pamphlets have been added, and an extensive manuscript "Bibliography of Pharmacy," which has been acquired, is now available for reference. The library of the North British Branch of the Pharmaceutical Society also appears to have been well appreciated.

The Committee of the Free Library, Chesterfield, do not go to the expense of printing a separate report, the library, which has now been open for three years, being still burdened with a building debt. The libraries and reading rooms are reported to be daily growing in favour, and the issues for the last year were double those of the first. A movement is on foot with the view of establishing a subscription department in connexion with the library.

The Free Library statistics, which are published in the *Abstract of the Accounts of the Borough of Macclesfield*, show that the total issues during the year 1883, from the Macclesfield Free Library, have been 54,123, of which 41,128 are classed as fiction. Class G consists of 85 embossed books for the blind, which were issued 81 times. In the reading room, which was opened 312½ days, the total attendance was 92,365, being a daily average of 295. The amount realized by the rate was £327.

Record of Bibliography and Library Literature.

Hints on Catalogue Titles and on Index Entries, with a rough Vocabulary of Terms and Abbreviations, chiefly from Catalogues, and some passages from Journeying among Books. By Charles F. Blackburn, London: Sampson Low, 1884, Roy. 8vo, pp. xi. 181. Price 14s.

The writer tells us that "Twenty years of aimless wandering and experiments at home and abroad . . . . have blindly prepared the ground for this book. The journeyings were preceded by years of apprenticeship in a foreign business, and followed by daily labour on catalogues in London houses of different lines in relation to books." An experience so extensive gives Mr. Blackburn a *prima facie* right to be heard, and we hope in our next number to examine what he has to say. As a record of personal opinion and experience, the book is interesting. But we ought to add that Mr. Blackburn's views and sympathies do not appear to us to harmonise with those of our leading librarians and bibliographers.

A Bibliography of Dr. Henry Sacheverell. By F. Madan. Oxford: Printed for the Author, 1884. Small 8vo, pp. 73.

Mr. Madan has reprinted 100 copies of the articles contributed to a contemporary, with additions and two indexes. The work is done with the skill and carefulness that we should expect from a sub-librarian of the Bodleian. He asks that those who possess volumes of the Sacheverell pamphlets which "deluged our libraries with a flood of the worst-printed books that English literature has known," will help to complete the list here given.

The Aberdeen Printers. Edward Raban to James Nicol. 1620–1736. By J. P. Edmond. Aberdeen: J. and J. P. Edmond and Spark, 1884. 8vo, Parts I and II, pp. iv, 128.

Mr. Edmond's beautifully printed book supplies a careful account of the productions of the early Aberdeen printers. Those which he has himself seen have the arrangement of the titles shown by perpendicular lines, and the library in which the books are to be found is noted. In all other cases the authority for the title is given. He proposes to issue a number of fac-similes. Two other parts are intended to complete the work.

Cheshire Gleanings. By William E. A. Axon. Manchester: Tubbs, Brook and Chrystal, 1884. 8vo, pp. xi, 331.

Mr. Axon has followed up his volume of Lancashire Gleanings by this companion collection. Our readers will not need to be informed that this pleasant volume of antiquarian and literary gleanings is full of interest and charm. We will only draw attention to the articles of special interest to librarians—those on "Sir John Chesshyre's Library at Halton," and on "Book Rarities of the Warrington Museum."

Library of Harvard University. Bibliographical Contributions. Edited by Justin Winsor. No. 16. Classified Index to the Maps in Petermann's Geographische Mittheilungen. 1855–1881. By Richard Bliss. Cambridge, Mass.: University Press, 1884. 8vo, pp. 55.

Republished from the *Bulletin* of Harvard University.

Q. P. Indexes, No. XV. The Q. P. Index Annual for 1883. Third Annual Issue. . . . Bangor, U.S.A.: Q. P. Index, Publisher, 1884. 8vo, pp. 40.

An Index to leading American, and the following European, periodicals:—Deutsche Rundschau, English Illustrated Magazine, Longman's, Macmillan's, Magazine of Art, Nord und Süd, Popular Science Review, Westermann's Monatshefte, and to United States Consular and Education Reports. An Index to Nos. 1-50 of *The Monograph* is stitched up with the Annual.

Catalogus Bibliothecae Guyotianae Instituti Surdo-mutorum Groningani. Pars Specialis. Curavit Dr. A. W. Alings. Groningae: Hoitsema, 1883. 8vo, pp. viii, 244.

A valuable and extensive special collection of books 'de surdo-mutis, balbis, caecis et mente imbecillis,' was formed by the brothers Carl and Rembt Tobias Guyot, and presented to the Institution for the Deaf and Dumb at Groningen by the son of the latter, Henry Daniel

Guyot. The library has since been increased, and the present catalogue has been prepared by the Director of the Institution. The books are carefully classified, and the titles set out with great care and fulness.

Die wissenschaftlichen Vereine und Gesellschaften Deutschlands im neunzehnten Jahrhundert. Bibliographie ihrer Veröffentlichungen seit ihrer Begründung bis auf die Gegenwart von Dr. Johannes Müller, Custos an der Königlichen Bibliothek zu Berlin. Berlin: Asher, 1883. 4to.

This bibliography of the publications of the learned and scientific societies of Germany will be completed in about six parts, published at six shillings, of which three have been issued. The number of societies represented will be about 500, and the term, as used by Dr. Müller, embraces only those societies whose membership is open, so that national academies and similar institutions are excluded. The societies included in the plan are arranged under the names of places, which follow each other in alphabetical order.

The Report to the Lords of the Committee of Council on Education relative to the Conference on Electric Units at Paris, in 1883, published by the Science and Art Department, contains a complete Catalogue of Papers referring to "Earth Currents," by Mr. A. J. Frost, Librarian to the Society of Telegraph Engineers. Mr. Frost has also contributed an Index and Bibliography to the "History of the Electric Telegraph to 1857," by J. J. Fabie (Spon: 1884).

An important reproduction in fac-simile of Archbishop Mansi's great "Conciliorum Collectio," is announced by Victor Palmé's Agency in Berlin (S. Calvary & Co.). It will be in 31 volumes, and the price will be raised after four hundred subscriptions have been received.

Mr. W. E. A. Axon has prefixed to the "English Dialect Words of the Eighteenth Century," as shown in Nathaniel Bailey's Dictionary, which he has edited for the English Dialect Society, a fuller account of Bailey than has yet been published, and a bibliography of the Dictionary, with a list of his other writings.

We have received the April part of the *Gloucestershire Notes and Queries*, edited by the Rev. Beaver H. Blacker (annual subscription, 5s.). It is announced that a Gloucester Bibliography is in preparation.

We have also received from Mr. Henry Gray, of Manchester, the well-known antiquarian bookseller, the Catalogue of that portion of the late Mr. James Crossley's books, which is to be sold in Manchester. The sale extends over seven days (May 12th to 19th), and embraces some twenty thousand volumes.

H. H. Prince Ibrahim Ilmey, brother of the Khedive, is printing a bibliography of the Antiquities, History, Political and Social Life of Egypt from the earliest times. According to the *Library Journal* a certain number of copies will be set aside for public libraries.

Prof. Alexander Graham Bell has in preparation a complete bibliography of the literature of Electricity, and has already collected, as we learn from the *Library Journal*, at his house in Washington, the titles of 40,000 books, pamphlets and articles on the subject.

P. de Lagarde contributed to the *Nachrichten von der Königlichen Gesellschaft der Wissenchaften zu Göttingen*, for the 15th January, an article on the Ashburnham Collection of MSS., urging that they should be secured for Germany, as being of much greater value than the Hamilton MSS., already obtained.

To the May number of the *Gazette des Beaux-Arts* M. Léopold Delisle contributes a third and last article on "Les Livres d'Heures du Duc de Berry." The library of the Duke, M. Delisle tells us, consisted of over 300 volumes, and he concludes his article by mentioning the collections in which altogether 89 are now to be found—71 being in France and 10 in England.

Notes and Queries.

Notes.

Dudinck (*Lib. Chron.* page 55).—If T. will consult the *Supplément* to Brunet's *Manuel du Libraire,* Paris, 1878-80, he will find the following entry on page 427 :—"Dudinck (Josse a). Palatinum Apollinis et Palladis, hoc est, designatio præcipuarum Bibliothecarum Mundi Veteris novique sæculi. *Coloniæ, apud Iodocum Kalkouen,* 1643, in-8. [Note] Petit volume rare et curieux, qui a précédé les dissertations du P. Jacob, de Le Gallois, de Lomeier et autres bibliographes." J. C. H.

Editio princeps : Bacon's Sylva Sylvarum.—My attention has been drawn to a paragraph by Tiro on page 55 of last month's issue of the Library Chronicle. Tiro may be surprised to hear that I possess copies of Evelyn's "Silva" and Lord Bacon's "Sylva Sylvarum," and would recommend him to look at the latter, when he will be further astonished to find a considerable space therein given to trees, the book not being an anthology as he seems to fancy. As regards Theophrastus, the edition by Bodaeus a Stapel is the only one which antiquarian botanists care to consult ; hence I regard it as being the best, and, as such, I used the term complained of. As beginners are generally the most pedantic in their use of trade terms, Tiro is technically right on this point. B. Daydon Jackson.

The "Modern Proteus."—The book, recently issued as a history of General Gordon in China, the story of the "Ever Victorious Army," by Samuel Mossman, pp. x, 340, 12mo (London : Griffith and Farran), was originally published in December, 1875, as a tale, and was then entitled—"The Mandarin's Daughter : a Story of the Great Taipang Rebellion and Gordon's ever Victorious Army," by Samuel Mossman, 12mo, pp. 340 (Griffith and Farran). This method of getting rid of a remainder is to be deprecated as causing a great deal of confusion, besides other objections that might be made to it. E. C. A. A.

Correspondence.

An Offer.

Rev. T. P. Kirkman, author of "Philosophy without Assumptions," has seventy or eighty copies of his work left, *not bound,* and will be happy to present a copy to any library willing to receive it—bind it and place it on their shelves. His address is Croft Rectory, near Warrington.

Musical Bibliography.

32, Stevenson Drive, Langside, Glasgow, 29*th April,* 1884.

I am compiling for insertion in a Biographical Dictionary of Musicians a Bibliography of English and American publications on Music, periodical and otherwise. Towards completing this, I shall be glad to receive transcripts of titles of rare or out of the way works on musical theory, history or biography, psalmodies or hymnals, collections of glees, madrigals, part-songs or songs, by more than one composer ; or old and forgotten musical journals, with the dates between which they flourished. Any information will be highly acceptable, however modest, as this is one of the first efforts ever made to collect the English contributions to musical literature.

James D. Brown, of Mitchell Library, Glasgow.

Delivery of the "Chronicle."

"Every mickle makes a muckle," and in these days of the Association's small things we should all try to save—where saving does not interfere with efficiency. Why not let the local Secretaries distribute the copies of the Chronicle subscribed for in their immediate vicinity? The parcels might be sent through London agents or direct by Sutton, with whom most of us, I suppose have a contract. The saving would at least amount to several subscriptions.

Economy.

Printed and published for the Library Association of the United Kingdom by J. Davy & Sons, *at the Dryden Press,* 137, *Long Acre, London. Annual Subscription, post free,* 6*s.*

The Library Chronicle.

RESEARCHES FOR MANUSCRIPTS IN THE LEVANT AND, MORE ESPECIALLY, IN THE MONASTERIES OF MOUNT ATHOS: GIOVANNI AURISPA TO SPYRIDION LAMBROS (A.D. 1425 TO 1880).

(Being an abridged Chapter of a forthcoming Book.)

[*Continued.*]

BY EDWARD EDWARDS.

§ 2. *Researches amongst the Monasteries of the Nitrian Desert.*

> "The Archæologist cannot, like the [philological] Scholar, carry on his researches in his own Library, independent of outward circumstances .... He must travel, must excavate—collect—transcribe, ... before he can place his subject before his mind."
>
> CHARLES THOMAS NEWTON, *On the Study of Archæology*, 26.

MONASTIC History may be said to begin with those communities in the secluded valley of Nitria, the small remains and the large ruins of whose rocky abodes have attracted so many visits in quite recent days, with results which have become very memorable in literary history. The foundation of the earliest of those ruined convents is lost in the mists of a remote antiquity. But it is certain that about the year 330, at latest, there already existed rude hermitages in the Nitrian Desert, and that ere long that Desert came to be as crowded with monks as a hive with bees. For many generations the valley so peopled with ascetics appears to have excited far-spread curiosity; shared, in course of time, by Mohammedans as well as by Christians. The communities have long since dwindled into comparative insignificance. The few monks that remain are commonly ignorant even of their own history. Of their most ancient and picturesque abodes the very sites can, in many cases, be traced only amidst doubt and difficulty. But for the student, and most especially for the student of Theology and of the History of the Church, that lonely and barren valley will have an enduring charm, as the scene, in primitive days, of the self-denying vigils, and of the literary labours, of many pious men, who, amidst whatsoever large admixture of corruption, or of folly, had a firm grasp on much of vital Christian truth; and who were, in some respects and in their degree, the prototypes of

the greater "Monks of the West." It will also have another and scarcely less permanent interest as the long-buried mine whence, in far subsequent centuries, and in our own, the assiduous and patient researches of a series of explorers and of scholars—notable, in the roll, the Assemanis and Tischendorf; our own Huntington; Tattam; Lord Zouche; Lord Prudhoe—drew rich treasures. And thus the recent acquisitions, the record of which fills some of the most salient pages in the annals of Western Libraries, come to be closely linked with the pursuits, the studies, and the historical incidents, of the pristine monastic life of the East, fifteen hundred years ago.

Of the very little that is known of the first origin and subsequent growth of those Nitrian Libraries which have recently excited so much of renewed literary curiosity, the chief source is a series of isolated inscriptions upon individual manuscripts. They are full of interest. But they afford no adequate material for the annals of the collections whence they came. The narrative that is best worth the telling, in pages such as these, consists in a brief summary of the researches of travellers. And it may well be restricted to those of the last two or three centuries.

Perhaps, the earliest notable allusion to the manuscript wealth of the Levantine monasteries, within those limits, is to be found in the all-embracing correspondence of Peiresc, who in matters of bibliographic research has left his mark almost everywhere. He learnt, from Gilles de Loche, that a traveller in Egypt had then recently seen, in a monastery, a library of about *eight thousand* volumes.

It is probable, from more than one circumstance of the incident, that the Library so visited and so reported of, was that of the Monastery of St. Mary Deipara, or "of the Syrians," now so famous.

In 1646, we find Jean Magy, a merchant of Marseilles, writing to Séguier, Chancellor of France, thus :—"My partners, the merchants of Egypt, now in Paris, tell me that your Excellency is desirous to have the works of S. Ufremé [S. Ephræm Syrus] and Lists of the Manuscripts of the Convent of S. Macaire and of other Egyptian monasteries." And he adds that he had written to his factor in Egypt to give all possible furtherance to the Chancellor's object.[1]

About the year 1680, Robert Huntington, afterwards Bishop of Raphoe, visited the monasteries of the Nitrian Desert, and made special and eager research for the Syriac version of the *Epistles of St. Ignatius*, of the existence of which there had been widespread belief amongst the learned, since the time of Archbishop Ussher. But his quest was fruitless, although, as it is now well known, a Syriac version of some of those epistles did really exist in one of the monasteries which Huntington visited. The monks, then as afterwards, were chary of showing their MSS., very small as was the care they took of them. The only manuscripts mentioned by Huntington, in recording his visits to three of the principal communities—St. Mary Deipara, St. Macarius, and El Baramous—are an *Old Testament* in the Estrangelo character; two volumes of Chrysostom in Coptic and Arabic; a Coptic *Lectionary* in four volumes; and a *New Testament* in Coptic and Arabic.[2]

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[1] Corresp. of Séguier, in Ség. MSS., *Bibl. Nat.*, printed by Delisle: *Le Cab. des MSS.*, ii. 87.

[2] *Observations of Travel*, as reprinted in John Ray's *Collection of Curious Travels.*

Towards the close of the following century, these monasteries received the successive visits of Sonnini de Manoncourt, of William George Browne, and of General Count Andréossi. Sonnini says nothing of books. Browne saw but few—among them an Arabo-Coptic *Lexicon*, the works of St. Gregory, and the *Old* and *New Testaments* in Arabic—although he was told by the Superior that they had nearly eight hundred volumes, with none of which they would part. General Andréossi, on the other hand, speaks slightingly of the books as merely "ascetic works, ... some in Arabic, and some in Coptic, with an Arabic translation in the margin;" but adds, "We brought away some of the latter class, which appear to have a date of six centuries." This was in 1799. Browne died in 1814; Sonnini de Manoncourt in 1812; Count Andréossi survived until 1828.

In the year 1827, the late Duke of Northumberland (then Lord Prudhoe) made more elaborate researches. His immediate object was a philological one, his lordship desiring to further Mr. Tattam's labours on a Coptic and Arabic Dictionary. Hearing that "Libraries were said to be preserved, both at the Baramous and Syrian convents," he proceeded to El Baramous, accompanied by Mr. Linart, and encamped outside the walls. "The monks in this convent," says its visitor, "about twelve in number, appeared poor and ignorant." They pretended to be in possession of no books, save service-books, kept in the church. These they were quite willing to show. But a seductive little gift (tending to the amelioration of the monastic diet) led, next day, to an acknowledgment that there was a library, with a goodly number of MSS. in it. These, to the Duke, were quite as seductive as table-delicacies had been to the worthy monks. He put aside some choice ones, and begged that they might be taken, for fuller examination, to a neighbouring cell. The cell became presently the scene of a lively "haggling of the market." The noble book-lover, after long discussion, obtained the assent of the Chapter to his desired acquisition, and also to the adding thereto of a transcript (to be made by the one member of the community who was a penman) of a choice "*Selim*," or *Lexicon*. To the specified number of tempting dollars, another tempting supply of rice, coffee and tobacco, was to be added. These solitaries of El Baramous, who seemed to the Duke so "poor and ignorant," and whose appreciation of manuscripts was a purely commercial one, had at all events acquired a taste for the pleasures of the refectory.

At the Convent of St. Mary Deipara the illustrious visitor—illustrious not alone as a scholar, but as also, in very various ways, a most munificent public benefactor; therein following the footsteps of so many noble Percies:—

> "Renowned in their deeds as far from home,
> For Christian service and true chivalry,—
> As is the sepulchre in stubborn Jewry
> Of the world's Ransom, blessed Mary's Son,"—

found things in a far worse state than he had found them in at Baramous. He had to descend, by a trap-door, into *this* monastic library, and when down had to stand upon the leaves and fragmentary "gatherings" of MSS.—Coptic, Ethiopic, Syriac, and Arabic. "In appearance," writes the Duke, "it seemed as if, upon some sudden emergency, the whole library had been thrown down this trap, and the books had remained undisturbed, in their dust and neglect, for centuries."

What he obtained from St. Mary Deipara, the Duke gave to his friend Mr. Tattam. His Grace's researches were soon taken up, in a like spirit, by the late Lord Zouche—

at that time the Hon. Robert Curzon—whose most charming *Visits to the Monasteries of the Levant* are, happily, too well known to need more than briefest citation here.

Lord Zouche's researches were more productive than those of any of his predecessors. He was felicitous in his endeavours to win the good graces of the monks, and seems often to have made his visits as pleasant to his hosts as afterwards to his readers. But only one of them needs to be noticed in connexion with our present topic—that, namely, to the Convent of the Syrians, mentioned already. "I found," he writes, "several Coptic MSS. lying on the floor, but some were placed in niches in the stone wall. They were all on paper, except three or four. One of them was a superb MS. of the Gospels, with a Commentary by one of the early Fathers; two others were doing duty as coverings to large pots or jars, which had contained preserves, long since evaporated (?) On the floor I found a fine Coptic and Arabic Dictionary, with which they refused to part." After a most graphic account of a conversation with the Father Abbot—the talk being enlivened with many cups of rosoglio—he proceeds to recount his visit to a "small closet, vaulted with stone, which was filled to the depth of two feet or more with loose leaves of Syriac MSS., which now form one of the chief treasures of the British Museum." The collection thus "preserved" was that of the Coptic monks: the same monastery contained another, which was that of the Abyssinian monks. "The disposition of the manuscripts in the library," continues the visitor, "was very original. . . . The room was about twenty-six feet long, twenty feet wide, and twelve feet high; the roof was formed of the trunks of palm-trees. A wooden shelf was carried, in the Egyptian style, around the walls, at the height of the top of the door, . . . underneath the shelf various long wooden pegs projected from the wall, . . . on which hung the Abyssinian MSS., of which this curious library was entirely composed. The books of Abyssinia are bound in the usual way—sometimes in red leather, and sometimes in wooden boards; . . . they are then enclosed in a case, . . . to which is attached a strap, . . . and by these straps the books are hung on the wooden pegs, three or four on a peg, or more, if the books were small: their usual size was that of a small, very thick quarto. . . . Almost all Abyssinian books are written upon skins. . . . They have no cursive writing; each letter is therefore painted, as it were, with the reed-pen. . . . Some manuscripts are adorned with the quaintest and grimmest illustrations conceivable, . . . and some are worthy of being compared with the best specimens of caligraphy in any language." Then follows an amusing account of the "higgling" of the monks, after a truly Abyssinian fashion, ending in the acquisition of books, of the whole of which the travellers could not, by any packing or stuffing, make their bags containable. "In this dreadful dilemma, ... seeing that the quarto was the most imperfect," continues Lord Zouche, "I abandoned it; and I have now reason to believe, on seeing the manuscripts of the British Museum, that this was the famous book, with the date of A.D. 411, the most precious acquisition to any library that has been made in modern times, with the exception, as I conceive, of some in my own Collection. . . . This book, which contains some lost works of Eusebius, has . . . fallen into better hands than mine."[1]

In the following year (1838), the Rev. Henry Tattam (afterwards Archdeacon of Bedford), in furtherance of the purpose which had previously enlisted the late Duke

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[1] *Visits to the Monasteries of the Levant*, passim.

of Northumberland's co-operation, set out upon his expedition into Egypt. He arrived at Cairo in October, and in November proceeded up the Nile as far as Esneh, visiting many monasteries, and inspecting their libraries, in most of which he only met with liturgies and service-books. Sanobon was an exception, for there he found eighty-two Coptic MSS., some of them of value and of beauty.[1]

In a subsequent and curious conversation with some monks, held under canvas, Mr. Tattam was told that at one time the Nitrian monasteries numbered no less than three hundred and sixty : of almost the odd sixty (in addition to those subsisting) more or less of ruin is still visible. At St. Mary Deipara, Archdeacon Tattam was strongly tempted, like his predecessor, Lord Zouche, to covet possession of the treasured Coptic or Arabic Lexicon (*Selim*). His most powerful and moving arguments could procure—in full Chapter—only a transcript. A former Patriarch had written on the fly-leaf a most impressive curse upon robbers, coveting manuscripts. After long years, however, the treasure found its way to Parham.[2] At El Baramous, Tattam, like his predecessors, found a noble collection of Liturgical MSS. in a condition of deplorable neglect. At Amba-Bischoi the MSS. were measurable—by gauging. Sometimes they lay strewn on the floor, nine inches deep. At Micarius the state of things was not dissimilar ; but from thence Mr. Tattam's persuasions enabled him to carry off about a hundred.

The impression made on the good Archdeacon's mind was a lasting one. He returned, not long afterwards, to his quest ; "and he came back to us," writes Miss Platt, "followed by Mahommed and one of the Bedouins, bearing a large sack full of splendid Syriac MSS. on vellum : they were safely deposited in the tent." At Amba-Bischoi a successful bargain was struck for an old *Pentateuch* in Coptic and Arabic, and a beautiful Coptic *Evangeliary*. On the next day, "Mahommed brought from the priests a Soriana, a stupendous volume, beautifully written in the Syriac characters, with a very old worm-eaten copy of the *Pentateuch* from Amba-Bischoi, exceedingly valuable, but not quite perfect." The remainder of the story, or rather the greater part of what remains, must here be more concisely told than in the words of the original narrator.

The manuscripts which Mr. Tattam had thus obtained, in due time arrived in England. Such of them as were in the Syriac language were disposed of to the Trustees of the British Museum ; and the discoveries to which they led will receive some notice in another part of these *Memoirs*. Forty-nine manuscripts of extreme antiquity, containing some valuable works long since supposed to have perished, and versions of others written several centuries earlier than any copies of the original texts now known to exist, constituted such an addition as has been rarely, if ever, made at one time to any library. The collection of Syriac MSS. procured by Mr. Rich had already made the Library of the British Museum conspicuous for this class of literature ; but the treasure of manuscripts from Egypt rendered it superior to any in Europe.

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1 Miss Platt's charming *Journal of Travel* (unpublished), as abridged in the *Quarterly Review*, vol. lxxvii. pp. 45, *seqq*.

2 The noble library and archives of Parham are conspicuous, in the nine Reports of the Royal Commission on Historical MSS., by their absence. There is probably no impropriety in the expression of the writer's belief that had their late noble and most accomplished owner survived, they would have been conspicuous otherwise. Readers of the deeply interesting *Life of Bishop Wilberforce* will not need to be reminded of the touching account given by the lamented prelate of Lord Zouche's closing days, when the Bishop himself not unconsciously was drawing towards his own.

From the accounts which the Duke of Northumberland, Lord Zouche, and Mr. Tattam had given of their successive visits to the monastery of the Syrians, it was evident that but few of the manuscripts belonging to it had been removed since the time of Assemani; and probable that no less a number than nearly two hundred volumes must be still remaining in the hands of the monks. Early notices of the Nitrian Libraries show that in one particular year of the tenth century, two hundred and fifty MSS. were brought into one convent from Mesopotamia. If the recorded spoils made by Assemani, by Lord Zouche, and Archdeacon Tattam were added together—the aggregate number of which is *less* than two hundred and fifty—there seemed to be warrant for the conclusion that at St. Mary Deipara alone there probably remained at least one hundred and fifty volumes of a date not later than the tenth century. Archdeacon Tattam was, in the year 1842, commissioned by the British Treasury, upon the urgent representation of the Trustees of our National Museum—ever evincing the utmost and best-directed zeal in the discharge of their important public duties—to resume his researches. He displayed all the vigour, and all the tact, of which he had previously given earnest, under less favourable circumstances. Now, he was backed by Government. It was full time. Had there, at this juncture, been renewed delay, treasures which adorn our grand Museum would, in all probability, once again have aggrandized the National Library of our nearest—and, in *secular* matters—our worthiest neighbours.

Mr. Tattam's present success was not inconsiderable. But the craft of the monks was—for the time—too much for an Englishman to cope with. The upshot will be seen presently.

In 1844, Tischendorff visited the monasteries already explored by Lord Zouche and by Archdeacon Tattam. His account reproduces the old characteristics :—"Manuscripts heaped indiscriminately together, lying on the ground, or thrown into large baskets, beneath masses of dust. . . . The excessive suspicion of these monks renders it extremely difficult to induce them to produce their MSS., in spite of the extreme penury which surrounds them. . . . But much might yet be found to reward the labour of the searcher."

In truth, the monks, poor and simple as they sometimes seemed to be, had taken very sufficient care to keep enough of literary treasures in their hands to reward further researches. Nearly half of their collection seems to have been withheld.

A certain Mr. Pacho now entered on the scene as a negotiator for the obtainment or recovery of the missing "treasures of the tombs." They had been virtually purchased before, but the Lords of the Treasury very wisely re-opened the public purse, and at length secured for the Nation an inestimable possession. The new accession completed, or went far towards completing, many MSS. which before were tantalizingly imperfect. It supplied a second ancient copy of the famous Ignatian *Epistles* (*to St. Polycarp, to the Ephesians*, and *to the Romans*); many fragments of palimpsest manuscripts of great antiquity, and among them the greater part of St. Luke's *Gospel* in Greek; and about four thousand lines of the *Iliad*, written in a fine square uncial letter, apparently not later than the sixth century. The total number of volumes thus added to the previous collections from the monasteries of the Nitrian Desert, preserved in our great National Library, are reckoned to amount to nearly a hundred and fifty.

(To be continued.)

HUMFREY WANLEY AND HIS DIARY.

By W. R. Douthwaite.

My first sentence must be one of apology for reading a paper on Wanley. Indeed, were it not that I promised Mr. Thomas to contribute something for the *Library Chronicle*, I should hardly have undertaken the task. But I hold it to be the duty of every member of the Library Association to do what lies in his power towards adding his mite to the general stock; and, therefore, throwing myself upon your indulgence, although I cannot pretend to deal adequately with the character and attainments of so eminent a person as Humfrey Wanley, I will do the best I can to point out some of those many excellent qualities, natural and acquired, by which he adorned his position as a librarian and antiquary.

It is not at all clear how Wanley originally achieved his wonderful capacity of judging the age of ancient manuscripts, or by what means he obtained access to deeds and charters sufficiently numerous to enable him to imitate the characters of various ages. His biographers are not explicit on this point, and it is difficult to understand how the intervals of leisure, which were all that he could have had in his character of a draper's apprentice, could have allowed him to accomplish what we know he must have done.

He was the son of the Rev. Nathaniel Wanley, Vicar of Trinity Church, in Coventry, author of the once popular *Wonders of the Little World*. He was born in that city, 21st March, 1671-2, and baptized there the 10th of April following. Of his Christian name he writes to Dr. Charlett (3rd October, 1704):—

"In reading the paper I could not but smile, perceiving that my name Humfrey, which is a Saxon name, and which I, as the Saxons did, do always write with an f, should there be printed with *ph*, as if I knew no better; and yet the true and Saxon way should be given to Dr. Hody, who never, as I know of, studied the language."

It was the specimens of his skill in writing that led to his gaining the attention of Dr. Lloyd, then Bishop of Lichfield and Coventry, who was the means of emancipating him from the draper's shop, and sending him to the University of Oxford. From 1696 to 1700 he was the assistant in the Bodleian Library, at the small salary of £12 a year. Dr. Hyde, Bodley's librarian, had the wit to appreciate Wanley's peculiar talents, and kept him at indexing. While at Oxford he compiled the indexes to the great Catalogue of English and Irish MSS., published by Bernard in 1697.[1] It may be observed that the painstaking care and labour which had induced him to persevere in imitating the old writings stood him in good stead. His eye and hand had been so trained as to be peculiarly fit for the neatness and closeness demanded by a written catalogue.

Wanley's writing is remarkable for the clearness and precision with which every letter is formed, and so methodical and accurate had he become, that every item in his Diary is fully punctuated and ready for the press. Indeed, he must have felt an

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[1] It is stated in Chalmers' Biogr. Dict., s. Bernard, that Dr. Bernard prepared the index. But we read in the *Epistola* prefixed to the Catalogue: "Opus amplis *Indicibus* augetur; qui Literatis magnopere profuturi. Hos vero debemus diligentiae et judicio *Humfredi Wanley*, juvenis non solum studiosi, sed ad promovendos Studiosorum Conatus semper parati. Quam illius indolem, cum ex omni vita, tum ex hoc beneficio intelligimus." (Dated December, 1696.)

intuitive conviction that this, his constant and well-nigh daily task, would long outlive him, and ever serve to keep his memory green. Yet, so far as I know, scanty regard has been paid to the vast amount of material that here lies, not unforgotten perhaps, but sparingly instead of liberally used, as it might and should be, in order to acquire an intimate knowledge of bibliographical history from 1715 to 1726. In the pages of Wanley's Diary or "Journal," as he calls it,[1] are to be found references to most of the learned men of his day; and among the several volumes of letters addressed to him (*Harl. MSS.*, 3777-3782), are many noted names, from Bagford to Pope and Pepys. Between the latter and Wanley, to judge from their correspondence, there was a close intimacy. When, in addition to these, and many others in the British Museum, it is remembered that there are numerous manuscripts in the Bodleian Library which illustrate Wanley's career, it is evident how ample are the materials for a history of one who has shed so much lustre on the calling of a librarian.

His employment in drawing up the catalogue for Dr. Hickes's *Thesaurus* of Anglo-Saxon Manuscripts, was the means of making him well known to the learned world. Many letters of Dr. Hickes in the Harleian Collection are written in almost pathetic terms, urging his assistant, in every form of words, to persevere more steadily in the task he had undertaken. It is certain that he underwent great toils, and at a time when his health was of the worst possible kind. His letters to Doctor (afterwards Sir Hans) Sloane, who was his kind physician and generous friend, abound with allusions to his several maladies. On 19th January, 1703-4, he says :—

"When I had the happiness of seeing you last, I did intend to have waited on you often before now, and should have done so but that I have been obliged to drudge ever since, without having one hour in a day to eat in, though I am at it from seven in the morning (by candlelight) to seven or eight at night, and now I'me so doz'd that I hardly know what I write.—Sloane MS., 4065 ff. 131, 132."

That he had frequent attacks, most trying to himself and alarming to his friends, is proved over and over again, by his correspondence. He writes of a fever for which he was attended by Dr. Sloane :—"They laid me on 5 Blisters, I thank 'em, on my back, 2 to my Head, and 2 on the inside of my arms towards the wrists." His liability to severe colds, his susceptibility in every change of weather, these can scarcely be overlooked, for we have to regard Wanley not only as a librarian, but as a man more than ordinarily subject to bodily infirmities. When he is said to have been incapable of sustained exertion, the cause may be readily surmised.

Wanley was also subjected to malicious attacks on his character, which even reached the ears of Dr. Lloyd, causing that prelate to write him a letter of rebuke; but Wanley's explanation was quite satisfactory, and, judging from the following letter, which he wrote to Dr. Thomas Tudway (*Harl. MS.*, 3779 f. 97) he appears to have borne the annoyance in an admirable spirit :—

"I beseech you not to be troubled for me, who am not sorry for myself. As to the malice of all who have wronged me, I am not sollicitous. I thank God I can forgive them, and take my rest in innocence. . . .

"It is not in my nature to be too morose or churlish to any man, let his *party or religion be what it will.*"

In a letter to Dr. Charlett, giving an account of several MSS., in the King's Library (dated London, May 30th, 1698, Wanley writes :—

"I have at length got the Doctor[2] in a perfect good humour, and this day began to take

[1] "11th January, 1719-20. This journal resumed by my Lord Harley's order."
[2] Dr. Bentley.

a specimen of the Alexandrian MS. The Doctor made me dine with him, and treated me with great kindness. After dinner I again moved to see the library, having been put by three or four times before ; which he now readily granted. The books lie in unexpressible disorder and confusion, and have done so, as I have been told, ever since King Charles his time. I guess by the view of them that there are many more manuscripts than are expressed in Dr. Maurice's catalogue. . . . My paper, sir, will not permit me to enlarge any further on the books I saw, which I humbly beg you, sir, to dispense a little withal, though I do stay here beyond my time. I conceive it, sir, a part of a library-keeper's business to know what books are extant in other libraries besides his own ; and as this qualifies him the better for his place, so by that means he may prove the more serviceable, knowing what copies of such an author are in his own library, and where they may be found elsewhere."

As early as the year 1703 he was in the frequent habit of meeting and writing to Mr. Harley, then Speaker of the House of Commons. Indeed, in the preface to his volume of Dr. Hickes's Catalogue, addressed directly to the Speaker, he begins by saying that, of all those whom he numbers among his benefactors in Oxford or in London, to no one does he owe more than to Mr. Harley. To him, therefore, as chief among those learned persons, he inscribes this preface, dated 28th August, 1704, on account of his eminent position, his learning, and his liberality. It was, doubtless, this long acquaintance with Wanley's abilities that induced Mr. Harley to employ him in compiling a catalogue of his MSS., in the year 1708, and soon after to make him his library-keeper, in which post Wanley found at last the reward of his long and tedious preparation.

Opening the Diary which Wanley kept at the instance of Lord Harley, we are at once struck by the extreme formality of its style, which is well shown by the first entry, on the 2nd March, 1714-15 :—

" Present, my Lord Harley ; myself.

" 1. This being St. Chad's Day, I acquainted his Lordship that I did, the last Somer, write to Mr. Kimberley, Dean of Lichfield, desiring him to induce the Chapter of that Cathedral, to part with their old Book called *Textus S. Ceaddæ* to my Lord of Oxford, his Lordship, therefore, giving them money or books to a greater value, but that I had never received any answer ; also that it had appeared to me that Mr. Dean was absent from Lichfield at the time I wrote my letter, and long after, so that it might probably have missed him. Ordered that this matter be kept in Remembrance until the meeting of Convocation ; and that Mr. Dean Kimberley be then applied to."

The overtures, if made, must have failed, for Botfield in his account of the Library (*Cathedral Libraries*, p. 259) mentions the MS. as being still the property of the Dean and Chapter.

There is abundant proof of the ready access allowed to persons wishing to consult MSS. They were not only allowed to use them within the library hours, but to take them away on signing a note of receipt to be given up or destroyed on the return of the work lent. I may mention here that in a letter to Sir Hans Sloane,[1] Wanley gives his library time between eight and eleven in the forenoon, and from one to three or four in the afternoon. With this account entries in the diary tally :—

" Yesterday, in the afternoon, I came at one, as usual (minute of 26th January, 1724-5); but hearing that my lord dined abroad, I went to Mr. Mattaire," etc. " Yesterday evening, soon after four, when I went from hence" (minute of 7th December, 1725). The Bishop of Chester came (8th March, 1724-5) in the morning to study in Randle Holmes MSS., tarrying until four in the afternoon ; but not having near finished with 97 C. 16, he borrowed it of my lord, and gave me his note for the return of it."

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[1] Sloane, 4065, f. 147.

The Harleian Library was increased not entirely by purchase, but also by numerous gifts from a variety of persons. Mr. Jonah Bowyer, the bookseller, gave a fine parcel of original letters of King Charles II., the Earl of Sandwich, and others. Mr. Anstis, Garter King of Arms, gave 363 old deeds. Wanley brought in (21st November, 1722) 46 deeds and three rolls as a *free-will offering* to the library. The Rev. William Holman, of Halstead, in Essex, gave 14 old charters. Wanley makes a memorandum[1] that Mr. Gibson claims to be paid for a parcel of printed books, which he delivered long since, one of them being the first edition of "*Historiæ Augustæ Scriptores*," "which parcel (says Wanley), I advised him to make a present to my noble lord," "Mr. Clifton sent the Leiger book (or cartulary) of Blythe, as a present to my lord." "My nephew, Mr. George Browne, came to me, and presented me with the matrix of the old chapter seal of Dumferling (Dunfermline) in Scotland, which I give to this noble library, as a great rarity.

"Mr. Thornton, a Yorkshire gentleman, offering to present me with a parcel of Roman coins . . . . . I desired him to present it to my lord," "Mr. Simpson, the engraver, bringing it to me, as a present *Boissardi Bibliotheca* . . . I persuaded him to present it to my lord."

It was thus he worked, ever ministering to, yet never satisfying his appetite for books. There is the ring of genuine enthusiasm in his words :—

"Within a few weeks I hope to be at Wimpole, where his Lordship hath lately built five large rooms for a library, which I hope to fill this somer with as choice a parcel of books as any in England. Comparisons, I know, are odious, and two private persons I know, who at this present can out-number his Lordship ; but then in value they are said to be much inferior. I speak abstractedly from my Lord Oxford's books, which, if added to the others, would make such a collection as perhaps England never yet knew. As my Lord Harley's books are, they are the finest and most useful collection mine Eies ever yet beheld ; and if all library histories and relations were to be searched into, I believe it will not appear that so valuable and numerous a collection amassed together within so small a space of time, was ever, in any place, put in order at once, and what I here say, I am persuaded will be allowed by such of the Litterati as shall come and see them when the Library shall be opened (14 June), 1719."[2]

On the 19th October, 1720, Wanley makes a singular entry :—

"I found Mr. Hugh Thomas's widow, and inspecting the parcel of MSS., parchments, and papers bequeathed by him to my Lord Oxford, I found some of my own heraldical references to the MSS. in this library, which were many years ago *privately taken out of this library desk when I had left it safely locked up*."

Occasional notes of prices occur. An ancient copy of *Speculum Humanæ Salvationis*, with illuminations in each page (some decayed), and bound in crimson velvet, with the arms of England on the first leaf: and a fine old Primer, which formerly belonged to Lord North (whose arms frequently appear), were bought (4th April, 1715) for 20 guineas. Duplicates were got rid of or exchanged :—

"My lord having sent in a great parcel of duplicate printed books, to be sold to Mr. Noel, I put the same in order this day (21st January, 1719-20), and after much altercation Noel agreed (25th January), to leave the matter entirely to me as a medium between my lord and him."

Confidence must have been reposed in Wanley's integrity by others as well as booksellers. Mention is made of a visit (7th June, 1723) to Mr. Andrew Hay, who was desired to send in 16 MSS., in addition to those before had, of all which Wanley was to make "a valuation between my Lord and him, which valuation he is to accept of."

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[1] 10th February, 1723-4.

[2] Ballard's Letters (Bodleian), xiii, 86.

This arrangement was carried out, and a minute made (13th July, 1723):—

"I told over the MSS., sent in by Mr. Andrew Hay, and find that they are in number but 37, which, by virtue of our late agreement, my Lord is to have for as many pounds or guineas. This, I see, is a cheap bargain, the things being much more worth.

Returning to the facilities afforded of using the contents of the Library, there is a minute of 22nd March, 1723-4.

"Mr. Le Neve brought hither yesterday afternoon the MS. Registre of Castle Acre, which he borrowed the last year. I, therefore, have replaced the Book and burned his note."

"My Lord sent in (1st June, 1724) the MS., 36 B. 3, being the Robert of Gloucester which was borrowed for *Mr. Hearne*, to print at Oxford."

In January, 1719-20, three original Charters of Conan Duke of Brittany and Earl of Richmond were lent to the "Society of Antiquaries, meeting at the Mitre Tavern, in Fleet Street."

The business of the Library, within the years covered by the diary was principally conducted by Lord Harley, in conjunction with Wanley, but cases are recorded in which a power of final rejection rested with Lord Oxford.

Between 18th July, 1716, and 11th January, 1719-20, the Journal was (for some reason unexplained) discontinued, and during the interval Wanley was engaged on an Index of Authors (*Index Auctorum*), a Harleian MS., (not numbered, press-mark, Pl. lxxii. F.), a thick folio volume, in parchment cover, on the first leaf of which is this note, in five lines, here distinguished by an upright stroke :—

"Began this Index 14th April, 1718 | Hindered by many persons coming to the library | Attending my Lord Oxford | The arrival of the Welbec Library | Library-business with Mr. Noel, Mr. Tanner, Mr. Jones, &c."

The leaves are folded into four columns, as :—

B A B B A C B A D B Æ.

The names are arranged under each heading, thus :—

B A C.

Bacon (Nath.) 4633.†
Baconius (Rogerius) 86.*

A star (*) shows Author or Principall ; a cross (× or +) Translator, Annotator, or otherwise assistant.

The items are written in the neat and clear manner usual with Wanley, and it is most interesting to notice with what care he has affixed "tags" to the edges for reference, actually going so far as to letter on *both sides*, so as to turn back or forward with greater ease. This is, in itself, a monument of vast labour, and shows yet again how no pains were too great for Wanley, no matter what he took in hand. It will be seen, moreover, that his system involved positive examination of every work, and the resolve to record the name not only of the author, but of any who had been assistant.

Sometimes it happened that Wanley took upon himself, without further reference, the responsibility of rejection :—

"A young man brought (30th April, 1720) three manuscripts to sell, one being the works of Josephus, in Latin, a large folio above 500 years old. He "would not declare whose they are, or how he came by them, or who he is, or to whom he belongs ; only that they come out of the country, and he shall be paid for bringing them from Little Britain. He asked Ten Guineas for them, but I, finding the owner was desirous of being concealed, and the messenger in several stories, would make no bargain about them.

The diary abounds with far-reaching schemes for acquiring books or MSS., at home and abroad. Wanley's motive is explained (3rd June, 1723), when desirous of turning to profitable account a projected visit to Sir George Wheler,[1] at Durham :—

[1] Prebendary of Durham.—Sloane 4065 f. 147.

"I hope, God willing, to go down, because I understand that they [meaning the Dean and Chapter] have Books, Charters, and other things there will be more useful to the world in my Lord's library than in that remote corner of the kingdom."

His negotiations with Dr. Covell, Master of Christ's College, Cambridge, for the purchase of his MSS., gave rise to a protracted and amusing correspondence, which admirably illustrates the pertinacity with which Wanley kept his purpose in view.

19th March, 1712-3.

. . . As to your MSS., when I was last at Cambridge, I came upon *my own* account, and (*having a little of the ready*) was willing to buy them at a reasonable price. . . . But since you seem willing my Lord should have them, I durst not interfere with my Lord, but,therefore, resign up to him my pretensions, and have communicated yours to him accordingly.—*Add. MSS.* 22911, f. 156.

13th September, 1715.

. . . My Lord is willing to purchase your manuscripts at an honest and reasonable price, and you may take the money for them as soon as you shall think fitting, for it lies dead by him and ready for you.

If you gratify his curiosity before *the edge and appetite* are worn off, I believe he may be induced to buy all your other curiosities, but all dependeth upon the manner of your putting this parcel of MSS., into his hands. *You have seen the world*, and understand it as well as any man. Suffer me to advise you to sell your things yourself, and take the ready money, now that you have it in your power.—*Ibid.*, f. 171.

On the 19th November, 1715, Wanley again urges the Doctor to fix a price. . . . The sooner we finish this affair . . . the sooner you may put a sum of money into your coffers, which is more to your interest than the possession of a *parcel of old books.—Ibid.*, f. 176.

Writing to Doctor Thomas Tudway, 5th January, 1715-6 :—

"Pray let the Master of Christ's know that really 'tis time for a man of his years and supposed gravity to leave off trifling with a personage of my noble Lord's birth, quality, and fortunes ; and, in short, if he doth not soon conclude, I will cause his *statue to be erected* (*made of Bath-mettal*) *upon a Leaden Pedestal, and both sett on a Sandysoil. There he shall be represented, with the largest Spanish spectacles, squinnying upon the most worm-eaten of all his manuscripts.*"—*Harl. MS.* 3781, f. 167.

To the same, 20th December, 1715 :—

"Pray keep Dr. Covel warm this cold weather."

Wanley shows to the least advantage in the tone in which he notes the death of the Earl of Sunderland,[1] because (as he states), he believes that by reason of his decease some benefit may accrue to the Harleian Library," in raising the price of books no higher now, so that in all probability the commodity may fall in the market, and any gentleman be permitted to buy an uncommon old book for less than £40 or £50." No doubt the competition between the two earls had been keen and active, so much so that, on occasion of Mr. Fairbairne's (or Freebairne's) auction, Wanley put on record, for the information of posterity (as he says), the unaccountably high prices at which some books were sold. These particulars have been before printed, and I will allude to the sale no further than to say, that the Virgil bought for £46 by Vaillant (who was buying for the Earl of Sunderland), seems to have been that copy which was bought at the late Sunderland Sale by Mr. Quaritch, for £220.

A minute made by Wanley, 30th March, 1720, records :—

"I went to Mr. Wyat, the bookseller, and engaged him to watch upon Mr. Strype (who is above 76 years old, and has lately had an apoplectic fit), telling him that if he would buy, in time, Mr. Strype's Manuscript Books, Papers, and Parchments, my Lord will buy the same of him, and allow him reasonable profit. To which he agreed."

Mr. James Mickleton, of Furnival's Inn, spoke to Wanley about a gentleman who had about 300 ancient MSS., and amongst them "an heraldical roll, with rollers

[1] 19th April, 1722.

almost as thick as a man's middle, anciently painted; a chartulary of Reading Abbey, bound up in old velvet, with a large silver cross on the outside cover, with many other curiosities." He obstinately kept back the name of this gentleman, and added that Wanley should never know it until he had got all he liked into his own chambers; that done Wanley might buy the rest. This was part of the business transacted the first day noted in the Diary (2nd March, 1714-5). However, Lord Harley thought that he could get the information out of Mr. Pocklington, a very intimate friend of Mickleton, and in a very short time the name was obtained, as entered by Wanley, at the end of a sitting, held 26th March, 1715:—

"After so much business done, and his Lordship's departure, he returned, and said that he had just spoken to Mr. Pocklington, who said that Mr. Mickleton had told him that Mr. Ainsworth, of Southwark, is the person who hath the MSS. mentioned in the 9th minute of the 2nd of March."

Lord Harley having declared his intention of buying the late Mr. John Kemp's collection of medals, marbles, and other Greek, Roman, and Egyptian antiquities, Wanley informed his Lordship (28th January, 1719-20), "that William Kemp, the present possessor of them, is grown greatly in debt, so that in all probability he must part with them in a short time."

In like manner Wanley was ready to avail himself of any agency. When Hill, the painter, was going to Mr. Strangway's house, in Dorsetshire, he was urged to induce that gentleman to give some of his deeds to the Library.

Up to the last, projects of scouring Europe were afoot. Writing on Monday, 16th August, 1725, Wanley says:—

"On Saturday evening I met Mr. Noel, whose resolution is to sett out for France next Wednesday, and, if he can find Mr. Suttie, to go to Liege and see Baron Crassier's things; thence to see the libraries of St. Gall and Augsbourg, and so go to Boby Abby, near Naples; and thence, having visited the Back-Skirts of Italy, to pass into Sicily, and see what may be *picked up* at all those places."

Noel was always running to Wanley with some extraordinary tale. He declared (22nd January, 1719-20) that Mr. Alexander Cunningham had offered him 200 guineas to let the Earl of Sunderland have the preference before all others, as to the buying of his (Noel) old books. Wanley learnt that Mr. Smith had actually sold his MSS., for £1,500 to the Earl of Sunderland, at the very time that he was in treaty with Lord Harley. These MSS. Wanley inspected, and took some account of them, particularly those in Greek. He notes a visit from Dr. Sherard (14th February, 1725-6), who said that the Duchess of Marlborough was willing that a catalogue of the late Earl of Sunderland's Library should be taken, and published for the honour of the family; that six persons had been employed, and that the catalogue then, almost three-quarters finished, would be printed and sold at an easy price.

Doctor Fiddes came (15th January, 1719-20, and communicated his intention of writing the life of Cardinal Wolsey, and wanted Wanley to transcribe any materials in this Library suitable for his purpose. Wanley begged to be excused from transcribing, but called the Doctor's attention to some things here, and gave him notice of many others in the Cottonian Library. Mr. Bridges, of Lincoln's Inn, came (23rd July, 1719-20), and talked about printing "*Benedictus Petroburgensis*" and "*Chronicon Dunstapliæ.*" Both these had been copied by Wanley's own hand for the late Lord Weymouth, and were afterwards edited by Hearne in 1733 and 1735 respectively. Mr. Virtue came (6th April, 1726) about a design to engrave the heads of twelve principal English poets.

Sometimes Lord Harley and Wanley together, more frequently Wanley alone, looked over libraries at various booksellers, selecting books. Mention is made (13th January 1719-20) of the library of the late Dr. Wyncupp, at Noel's, together with books which formerly belonged to Mr. Christopher Wase. Wanley's understanding was that any books selected by him might be afterwards rejected by Lord Harley. He mentions this as the usual covenant at book sales, that, after the books had been bought on commission, they might be returned, if not approved by Lord Harley.

Allusions to book auctions are of course frequent. Mr. Warner bought for my Lord at Stafford House two fine MSS. (7th May, 1720), Mr. Charles Howard being called the owner of the "things now selling at Stafford House." The books were sold subsequently about or after 14th May, 1720.

Baron Hohendorrff's collection which included printed books, MSS., medals, and other antiquities, and was valued by the owner at £12,000, was being offered for sale at this time, 13th May, 1720. The Library was sold, about six months after, to his Imperial Majesty the Emperor of Austria, and a catalogue sent by the widow to Noel was presented by him to Lord Harley, 13th January, 1720-1. A few days after, the auction of the Earl of Stamford's books took place, the MSS., being kept out of the sale by Lady Stamford. Wanley notes (21st February, 1720-1) that Mr. Noel showed him that "some books were bought for my Lord in the present auction cheap." Of these a list is subsequently given (23rd February, 1720-1).

The arrangements made by Wanley were entirely one-sided, but he seems to have found no difficulty in getting them agreed to. Mr. Woodman desired (19th January, 1725-6) to have a catalogue of his approaching sale marked by Wanley, in order to secure any books, but "his Lordship to be at liberty either to buy or reject them." In a subsequent minute (21st January) he enters :—

"Yesterday (by my Lord's order) I went to Mr. Woodman, and directed him to secure for my Lord divers books at his approaching sale, with the usual covenant, that my Lord shall not be bound by me, but remain at his full liberty of accepting or rejecting them."

Noel was equally pliable, and told Wanley (7th May, 1722) that he was about to purchase the late Mr. Williams's library, "from whence my Lord may have anything that he pleases at the price it cost, and the remainder he (Noel) will keep close till the next winter."

(*To be continued.*)

A NEW PUBLIC LIBRARIES BILL.

To judge from the letters of inquiry we have received, many of our members must have been somewhat surprised to notice the brief announcements in the *Times* of the second reading of a "Public Libraries Acts Amendment Bill." It strikingly illustrates the fragmentary and haphazard character of our system of legislation, that while a Bill to consolidate and amend the whole of the statutes relating to Free Public Libraries lies awaiting discussion in the House of Commons, an amending Bill should be introduced in the other House of Parliament without any communication with the members in charge of the earlier Bill. We were not surprised, under these circumstances, to receive several anxious letters inquiring the nature of this new comer, and

it may be well, as the Bill is not a long one, and has been read a third time in the House of Lords, and has been sent down to the Lower House (May 26th) to reproduce its leading clauses for the information of our readers. We should premise that the Bill has been presented by the Lord President of the Council, and that it is intended to apply to the whole of the United Kingdom. We omit for the present the interpretation and short title clauses, and the schedule, as being only formal. The remaining clauses are as follows :—

1. Whereas doubts have arisen as to whether authorities acting under the Public Libraries Acts have power to fulfil the conditions required for a parliamentary grant in aid of the establishment of a school of science and art, and it is expedient to remove such doubts : It is therefore hereby declared and enacted that,—

Where any authority acting under the Public Libraries Acts accepts a grant out of moneys provided by Parliament from any Committee of the Privy Council on Education towards the purchase of the site, or the erection, enlargement, or repair, of any school for science and art, or school for science, or school for art, or of the residence of any teacher in such school, or towards the furnishing of any such school, such authority shall have power to accept such grant upon the conditions prescribed for the acceptance thereof by the said Committee, and to execute such instruments as may be required by the said Committee for carrying into effect such conditions, and upon payment of the grant shall, together with their successors, be bound by such conditions and instrument, and have power and be bound to fulfil and observe the same.

2. Whereas section eighteen of the Public Libraries Act, 1855, as regards England, and section nine of the Public Libraries Act (Ireland) 1855, as regards Ireland, provide for the erection of buildings "suitable for public libraries, or museums, or both, or for schools for science or art."

And whereas section ten of the Public Libraries Act (Scotland) 1867, provides for the erection of buildings "suitable for public libraries, art galleries, or museums, or each respectively," and doubts are entertained as to the meaning of those provisions : Now, therefore, it is hereby declared and enacted that—

Buildings may under the said sections be erected for public libraries, public museums, schools for science, art galleries, and schools for art, or for any one or more of those objects.

3. (1.) Where any of the following institutions, namely, a public museum, a public library, a school for science and art, a school for science, a school for art, or an art gallery has been established either before or after the passing of this Act under the Public Libraries Act, or any of them, there may at any time be established in connexion therewith any other of the said institutions, without any further proceedings being taken under the said Acts.

(2.) Section ten of the Public Libraries Amendment Act (England and Scotland), 1866, and section seventeen of the Public Libraries Act (Scotland), 1867, are hereby repealed, without prejudice to anything done under those sections.

The Library Chronicle.

The LIBRARY CHRONICLE *is issued on the 15th of the month, and communications, books for review, etc., intended for the forthcoming number should be addressed, not later than the 10th of the month, to the Hon. Editor,* ERNEST C. THOMAS, *care of Messrs. J. Davy & Sons, 137, Long Acre, W.C.*

The attention of librarians and library committees, of publishers and booksellers, is called to the advantages of the CHRONICLE *(which represents at least 250 libraries) as an advertising medium. Advertisements of Library Vacancies, and of Books Wanted, or Duplicates for Sale or Exchange by Libraries are inserted at low rates.*

Members of the Library Association whose subscription for the current year has been paid are entitled to receive the CHRONICLE.

Remittances, subscriptions, and advertisements should be sent to Mr. E. M. BORRAJO, *care of the Publishers.*

The Library Association cannot be responsible for the views expressed by the contributors to the CHRONICLE.

The Library Association.

The next Monthly Meeting of the Association will be held on Friday evening, July 4, at 8 p.m., at the London Institution, when a Paper will be read by the Hon. Secretary on "Richard de Bury's *Philobiblon*."

JUNE MONTHLY MEETING.

The June Monthly Meeting was held on July 4, at 8 p.m., at the London Institution, Chancellor R. C. Christie, V.P., in the chair.

It was announced that Mr. J. HUTCHINSON, Librarian, Middle Temple Library, and Mr J. J. RILEY, Free Library Commissioner, Darwen, have become Members of the Association.

The Rev. B. H. BLACKER, 26, Meridian Place, Clifton; Mr. J. GALWAY, 136, Strand, W.C.; Mr. W. GEORGE, 3, King's Parade, Clifton; Mrs. H. PARK, Mayoress of Wigan; Dr. A. K. ROLLIT, Mayor of Hull; and Mr. W. B. SLATER, 249, Camden Road, N., having been duly proposed at the last meeting, were elected Members.

Mr. CHARLES DAY, 16, Mount Street, Grosvenor Square, W., was proposed by the Treasurer, and seconded by the Secretary; Mr. W. H. MARTIN, 2, South Square, Gray's Inn, W.C., and Mr. E. G. SPIERS, 21, Bernard Street, Russell Square, W.C., were proposed by the Secretary, and seconded by the Treasurer; and Mr. JAMES WILSON, 35, Bull Street, Birmingham, was proposed by Mr. C. E. Scarse, and seconded by the Secretary, for election at the next meeting.

The following new bye-laws were reported as having been passed by the Council, and were adopted:—

"That candidates for membership who are not engaged in library administration shall be proposed on a form, on which shall be stated the name, profession, and address of the candidate, together with the names of the proposer and seconder."

"That Article 6 of the Constitution be more strictly adhered to with respect to the number of non-librarians admitted as members, and that the ballotting on each occasion be conducted in the manner prescribed for the election of honorary member by Article 25."

The Chairman then called upon Mr. W. R. Douthwaite to read a Paper on "Humfrey Wanley." After a discussion, a vote of thanks was unanimously passed to Mr. Douthwaite for his paper.

The Annual Meeting at Dublin will be held on Tuesday, the 30th of September, and following days.

Library Echoes.

Our members will be glad to know, as early as possible, that the date of our Annual Meeting at Dublin has been fixed for September 30th, and following days. It will be desirable that offers of papers should be sent to the Council at an early date.

In connexion with the International Meeting at Toronto, it is proposed to spend Sunday, the 7th September, at Niagara Falls, after which, if as many as *sixteen* English and American librarians announce their intention beforehand, a special hotel sleeping-car will be waiting

there for a trip *viâ* Detroit, Chicago, Cincinnati, Washington, Baltimore, Philadelphia, New York, Albany, Saratoga, &c., returning to New York by the Hudson River. A further trip will be arranged to Providence and Boston, returning to Quebec by way of the White Mountains. "It is hoped that the entire expense of English delegates will be within £50 to £60."

As the time of departure is now drawing near, it will be well for those who intend to go to Canada to make arrangements for a passage, especially as the steamers are likely to be very full in August; we shall be glad if those who have not already communicated their intention to us will do so at once.

The opening of the new Birmingham School of Art is an indication alike of the growing liberality among the rich, and of the sense of our municipal authorities that they are called upon to do something to provide for the artistic and intellectual needs of the communities which they represent.

Though the Museums' Act of 1845 preceded the first Public Libraries' Act by five years, the number of libraries established under the powers conferred by the Acts has been much larger than the number of museums. There seems, however, to be a general feeling among our more enterprising municipal bodies that they ought not to stop with a library, but should add a museum or art gallery, or both.

This has been done in many instances, and one result of this tendency has been to show the advisability of allowing the local institutions to connect themselves with South Kensington. Hence the Bill now before Parliament, of which we have given an account in a previous page.

We observe that the Columbia College has shown its appreciation of Mr. Mevil Dui's services by fixing his salary at the same rate as a full professor of the college. On our own side of the water we are glad to know that the Birmingham authorities have raised the salary of their chief librarian to £500.

Meanwhile at Cardiff the Committee of the Free Public Library have fixed the salary of the chief librarian they are now called upon to appoint at £120, with an upward limit of £150, the tendency being, apparently, to cut it down as much as possible.

Of one thing we are quite certain, that no policy can be more shortsighted and uneconomical than to stint the salary of the officer upon whom the whole success of the library must so largely depend. Is it reasonable to expect that any committee can secure the services of a man of education, of intelligence, and of good business qualities for so small a sum? Would they expect it in the case of a town clerk or any other important municipal officer?

Mr. W. H. K. Wright, borough librarian, Plymouth, is desirous of thanking those of his colleagues who replied to his questions relative to the Sunday opening of libraries and news-rooms. The matter has been laid before the Library Committee, but the proposal to open has been withdrawn for the present by the promoters. Mr. Wright has gathered a good deal of interesting information upon this question, which he proposes to lay before our readers shortly in the shape of an article.

EDITOR.

Library Notes and News.

HOME.

BIRMINGHAM.—On Saturday, May 31st, the inscription stone of the new Birmingham School of Art was laid by Mr. Richard Tangye, in the presence of a

large assembly, representing the municipal and educational authorities of the town, as well as its leading industrial interests. The site was presented by Mr. Cregoe Colmore, and a sum of £10,000 was presented by Miss Ryland towards the cost of the building, and a further sum of £10,000 by Messrs. George and Richard Tangye, who have also offered to defray the additional cost of erecting and furnishing the institution over and above the amount of £20,000. The plans for the building were prepared by the late Mr. J. H. Chamberlain. At a luncheon subsequently given by the Mayor, addresses were delivered by Alderman Kerrick, Mr. Richard Tangye, Professor Richmond, and others. The new school will be under the management of the Town Council and by the Birmingham Corporation Consolidation Act of last year, which abolished the limitation on the rate, the cost of carrying on the school as authorised to be defrayed out of the rate.

CARDIFF.—An interesting discussion took place at an adjourned general meeting of the Free Library Committee, on June 4th, when the terms of the appointment of a successor to Mr. Allpass, as librarian and secretary, were discussed. It was announced that replies had been received from 24 chief librarians, who had been asked whether they had had defined duties, only two answering in the affirmative. The Sub-Committee recommended that a librarian should be engaged at a salary of £120, increasing to £150, and that the appointment should be open to males and females. Amendments in favour of a larger salary were rejected.

DARLINGTON. — On Wednesday, June 4th, the foundation stone of the new Free Library, which is, with the site, the gift of members of the Pease family, was laid by Sir Joseph W. Pease, M.P. The Mayor and Corporation, with representatives of various public bodies, walked in procession from the Town Hall to the site, where, after the stone had been laid, Sir Joseph Pease delivered an address, in the course of which he hoped that Darlington, like Birmingham, would, at a time not far distant, go to Parliament to ask that there might be no limit to the amount that might be spent on books. The building has been designed by Mr. G. G. Hoskins, and will provide a general reading room, 57 feet by 29 feet; a student's room, 36 feet by 29 feet; the library proper, 56 feet by 29 feet; a ladies' reading room; and a committee room, each 20½ feet by 16 feet, with work rooms, lavatories and other offices. The rate will produce about £650 per annum. Some 4000 volumes from the Subscription Library have already been acquired for the new library by the Pease trustees.

DERBY. — Mr. Henry Allpass, Chief Librarian of the Cardiff Free Library, has been appointed Librarian and Curator of the Derby Free Library, Museum, and Art Gallery. There were, we understand, 180 candidates for the vacant appointment, and of the six selected candidates five were librarians and one a schoolmaster.

LIVERPOOL.—The annual meeting of the proprietors of the Liverpool Library was held on May 21st, Mr. Frederick Wevill, president, in the chair, to receive the 126th annual report, which we hope to notice in our next number. The Committee congratulated the proprietors on the reversal by the Court of Appeal, on the 24th of April, of the decision of Mr. Justice Chitty in the action of Peacock *v.* Sinclair. A full report of this judgment delivered in favour of the library by the Lords Justices has been printed, for the information of the proprietors. It is understood that an appeal is contemplated to the House of Lords.

LONDON: BRITISH MUSEUM.—Following the excellent precedent of last year, an interesting Wycliffe Exhibition has been arranged in the King's Library by Mr. E. M. Thompson, keeper of the manuscripts. The Exhibition begins with a series of MSS., consisting of Latin texts, classed in English, translations and service books in English, all intended to illustrate the efforts made to translate the Bible, or portions of it into English, from the earliest times to the close of the fourteenth century. Then follows a series of works on the Gospels and other books of the New Testament, many of which have been attributed to Wycliffe, and then the great collection of Biblical MSS. of the two Wycliffite versions. Then Wycliffe's

original works are represented in MSS., together with a few early-printed tracts of Wycliffe. And finally, the Reformer's life and actions are illustrated by MSS. and engravings. Mr. Thompson has prepared an excellent catalogue of the collection, which we notice on another page.

LONDON: ROYAL COURTS OF JUSTICE.—The Bar Library at the Royal Courts of Justice, the expense of forming which is being defrayed by the four Inns of Court, has just been opened. The first half of the sum of £2,000 thus contributed has been expended, and the books are now being arranged. A large and handsome room has been assigned for the use of the library by the Lord Chancellor, and Mr. Riches, of the Probate Library, has been appointed librarian.

LONDON: LONDON LIBRARY.—On Thursday, 29th May, the annual general meeting of the members of this library took place, Mr. H. W. Freeland in the chair. It was announced that a nett increase of 41 members during the year, representing a financial gain of £710. The number of members now on the register is 1,778. The accessions during the year were 3,574 volumes and 140 pamphlets. The volumes circulated amounted to 94,202. It was also announced that a new edition of the catalogue is in active preparation.

PLYMOUTH.—The extension of the premises of the Free Public Library is now in a forward state, and the new premises will be ready for opening in about a month. The alterations will cost about £400. As this expense cannot be met from the income of the library, the Committee in April issued a circular, announcing that only about £250 of this amount was promised, and suggesting that boxes had been placed in the various rooms to receive small contributions to the fund. It was pointed out that as nearly 2,000 persons enter the newsroom every day, "a penny donation from each during one week would realise nearly £50." We are sorry to learn that this suggestion has been very slightly responded to.

TARVES.—A movement has been carried on for some time for the adoption of the Public Libraries Acts in the parish of Tarves, Aberdeenshire. A public meeting was held in March of last year, and a committee appointed to take the opinion of the ratepayers. This was taken in December last by voting papers, with the result that the adoption of the Act was voted by 176 votes to 28, the entire number of ratepayers being about 240. Tarves is a strictly rural parish, with only one small village of less than 200 inhabitants, and it will be interesting to watch the experiment of working the Acts in what is, we believe, the first rural parish that has adopted them. We understand that several of the neighbouring parishes are moving in the same direction.

WORCESTER.—We announced in our last number that the Council had resolved, by a large majority, to open the Hastings Museum on Sundays. On June 3rd, after only a months' trial of Sunday opening, the Council, by a majority, decided to close the museum again on Sundays.

Mr. Cotgreave's library appliances are on view in the Educational Department at the International Health Exhibition. The indicator and periodical rack will be used in the library of the exhibition.

A propos of indicators, we hope in an early number to print a full description of a new indicator which has been devised by Mr. George Parr, of the London Institution, whose Card-Ledger has obtained so much praise, and Mr. E. M. Borrajo.

On Friday, June 6th, sundry lots were sold by auction at Messrs. Hodgson's, "By order of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office," including a file of the *Times* from 1838-1882, and 1853-1828, bound in volumes, as well as files of other newspapers, and a number of law books and educational works. The prices fetched were so small as to provoke from the auctioneer the observation that it was "like giving them away." We recommend the observation to the attention of Her Majesty's Government.

FOREIGN.

BERLIN: ROYAL LIBRARY.—Professor Henrich von Treitschke has contributed to the May number of the *Preussische Jahrbücher* an important article on "Die Königliche Bibliothek zu Berlin," obviously based upon information derived

from official sources. The number of volumes in the Library is about 900,000, and the annual increase about 20,000 volumes. In the year 1882-3 about 147,000 books were applied for, and 588 works were sent away to be used out of Berlin.

CAIRO.—Ludwig Stern, Spitta Bey's predecessor as Librarian of the Library at Cairo, contributes an article on the history of the library to the *Deutsche Revue* for May. He mentions that the first part of the catalogue has been completed.

COLUMBIA COLLEGE.—We are glad to learn from the *Library Journal* that the Columbia College Library has made very great progress during Mr. Dewey's first college year, and that the trustees have signified their appreciation by making the salary of the librarian that of a full professor of equal service, viz., $5,000. It is proposed to open a School of Library Economy, as a department of the university, on October 1st, 1866, and, in connexion with it, the librarian will receive the title of Professor of Library Economy.

DRESDEN.—A descriptive catalogue of the great collection forming the famous "Bibliographisches Museum" of Heinrich Klemm, has been prepared and published by its owner. It forms an octavo volume of over 500 pages, and describes over 1,000 manuscripts and printed books of the 15th and 16th centuries, the latter dating from 18 German towns in which presses were established before 1470. Some copies have been bound in antique style, and in wood from the foundations of the old Römerbrücke, at Mainz, said to be 2,000 years old.

JERSEY CITY.—Messrs. Lorillards have established a free library and reading-room for the use of the 3,000 workpeople in their factory. The library opens with a well-chosen stock of 10,000 books, and the reading-room is furnished with 100 newspapers and magazines.

LEIPZIG.—According to the Annual Report of the Börsenvereins der deutschen Buchhändler, the number of volumes added to the Library in 1883-4 was 653, including a collection of nearly one hundred South German fair-catalogues. A new catalogue of the Library is expected to be ready in the autumn.

PHILADELPHIA.—It is proposed to form a library in connexion with the Electrical Exhibition, which is to be opened at Philadelphia on September 2nd, under the auspices of the Franklin Institute, to be called the "Memorial Library of the International Electrical Exhibition of 1844." A Committee on Bibliography has been appointed, with instructions to obtain as complete a library as possible of all publications pertaining in any way to electrical science. As complete a classification as possible will be made of the Library, and a printed catalogue will be issued, giving due credit for all gifts. Parcels may be sent either to the care of Fred. Ransome, Esq., Rushmere Lodge, Lower Norwood, Surrey; or to the Committee on Bibliography, Franklin Institute, Philadelphia, U.S.A.

The April number of the *Library Journal* has an article on "A Nomenclature of Classification," by J. N. Larned, of the Young Men's Library, of Buffalo.

The June number of the *Centralblatt für Bibliothekswesen* has an article "Zur Geschichte des Ankaufs des Meusebachschen Bibliothek," by C. Wendeler, and an article on "Nikolaus Trübner," by Karl J. Trübner.

Dr. Petzholdt's *Anzeiger* for June has an interesting article on "Two Manuscript Catalogues of the Tenth Century," by Hermann Hagen, reprinted from the *Jahrbücher für classische Philologie.* The catalogues are in the library at Berne.

The number of *Il Bibliofilo* for May-June contains the prospectus of a proposed "Società Libraria Italiana," which is apparently intended to unite all those who are in any way interested in books or libraries into an association to be called the *Associazione Bibliofila.* The prospectus is a lengthy and interesting document, of which we propose to give our readers a fuller account. In the same number the editor, Carlo Lozzi, concludes his article on the "Inventor of Printing, according to recent researches."

Library Catalogues and Reports.

Manchester Public Free Libraries. Ancoats Branch. Catalogue of the Books in the Boys' Reading Room. Manchester, 1884. 8vo, pp. 32.

This handy little catalogue gives the books under their titles, as well as the authors' names, and, in many cases, there is a third entry under subjects. The selection of books for boys' reading appears to have been admirably made.

Barrow-in-Furness. The First Annual Report of the Committee of the Free Public Library . . . 1882-3. Barrow-in-Furness, 1883. 8vo, pp. 18.

The Committee report that from its opening this library has proved a great success. The issues for the year have reached 70,488, a daily average of 250. The total number of volumes in the library is 7,092. Only one volume has been lost.

The Birmingham Library. Annual Meeting. Report and Proceedings. January 30th, 1884. 4to, pp. 12.

During the year 1662 volumes have been added to the library. The want of more space is much felt, but the Committee find great difficulty in recommending any scheme to the proprietors. The Committee pass a high encomium upon their librarian, Mr. C. E. Scarse, more especially in regard to the completion of the catalogue.

Glasgow. Report of the Mitchell Library, 1883. . . . Glasgow, 1884. 8vo. pp. 48.

6,557 volumes and pamphlets have been added to the library, the stock of which is now 51,582. Special reference is made to the acquisition of the Gardyne Collection. The issues during the year were 381,607, being an increase of 15,382 over the previous year: the attendance of readers at times being larger than the resources of the library could satisfactorily meet. The remarkable fact is noted that from the commencement of the library, in November, 1877, to the end of last year, the total issues were 2,135,309.

Glasgow. Report for the ninety-third year of the Stirling's and Glasgow Public Library (1883-4); with Proceedings at the Annual Meeting of Subscribers, held on 8th April, 1884. Glasgow, 1884. 8vo, pp. 16, and wrapper.

The number of members has increased from 664 to 731. 39,633 volumes were issued from the reference department, being an increase of 4,537. In the lending department 72,017 volumes were issued, an increase of 21,284. During the year 684 volumes and pamphlets were added to the library, the re-arrangement of which is now nearly complete.

London. Thirty-fourth Annual Report of the Bank of England Library and Literary Association, 1884. London, 1884, 8vo, pp. 13.

During the year 41,345 volumes were issued, showing a decrease of 1,238 upon the previous year. 262 books have been purchased and added to the library, which now contains 16,698 volumes. The number of members is 499, a decrease of three. Some improvements made in the reading room have added to the comfort of readers. Out of an income of £343. 1s. 1d. the sum of £72. 17s. 5d. was expended in the purchase of books, and the year closes with a balance in hand of £95. 5s. 6d.

London. Library and Club (Messrs. Fredk. Braby and Co., Limited). Fourteenth Annual Report, 1883-4. London, 1883. 8vo, pp. 19.

During the year 288 volumes were added to the library, the present stock of which stands at 1850 volumes. It is satisfactory to note that more use has been made of the library than in any previous year, no less than 1,570 volumes having been lent for home reading. The report, which supplies full particulars of all the other departments of this excellent institution, makes a special reference to the Liverpool meeting of the Library Association.

Borough of Middlesbrough. Annual Report of the Free Library Committee for the twelfth year ending 30th September, 1883. . . . Middlesbrough, 4to, pp. 8.

The Committee report that their finances have been at last placed in a satisfactory condition. The total issues during the year have been 65,208, an increase of 3,845. The percentage of fiction is 65·69, a decrease of 1·92. 631 books were added, making the stock in the library 10,551.

Penrith Free Public Library and Museum. First Annual Report of the Committee. February 27th, 1884. Penrith. 8vo, pp. 13.

The small amount realised by the rate, £102. 7s. 10d., has rendered necessary the opening of a subscription list which has produced £410. 3s., including £100. from the Grocers' Company. Satisfactory progress has been made, both with the museum and library, the latter containing 4000 volumes. A return of the volumes borrowed during six months gives a weekly average of 219.

Philadelphia. Sixty-first Annual Report of the Mercantile Library Company. . . . January, 1884. Philadelphia, 1884. 8vo, pp. 31.

The number of volumes in the library is 147,585, a net gain for the year of 3,025. The total number of members is 5,067. The issues were 139,189, a daily average of 455. The electric arc lamps, having proved unsatisfactory for reading purposes, were discontinued. Out of a total income of $25,956·85, the cash in hand on January 1st, 1884, was $20·32.

Borough of Plymouth. Seventh Report of the Free Public Library and News Room Committee. . . . Presented to the Town Council, February 13th, 1884. 1883. Plymouth, 1884. 8vo. pp. 38.

The total issues during the year were 179,506 volumes, a decrease of 2,815. The library now contains 17,042 volumes, being an increase of 1,523. Mr. Wright lays great stress upon the need for more accommodation, and submits a scheme for enlarging the present premises pending the erection of a suitable building. The total income of the year was £818. 11s. 5d., and the balance in hand £6. 7s. The usual statistical tables are appended, including a classified list of additions.

Borough of Reading. Free Public Library and Museum. First Annual Report, 1883-84. Reading, 8vo, pp. 24.

The number of volumes in the library is 12,475, 10,450 in the lending library, and 2,025 in the reference library. The total issues for the year were 118,104, of which 106,191 were borrowed from the lending library by 4,637 persons. The percentage of fiction is 65·2. It is calculated that there is an average daily attendance in the reading and news rooms of 550. Annexed are statistical tables and lists of donations to the library and museum.

Record of Bibliography and Library Literature.

Authors and their Works, with Dates. Being the three Appendices to "The Reader's Handbook." By the Rev. E. Cobham Brewer, LL.D. London, Chatto and Windus. 1884. cr. 8vo, pp. 1133-1399. Price 2s.

Dr. Brewer has reprinted from his well-known Handbook the three Appendices, apparently without making any corrections in the stereotype plates. This we infer from the numbering of the pages being preserved, as well as from the circumstance that the work has not been brought down to date. We observe no books mentioned with a date later than 1881. The book has evidently cost the compiler much labour, but has unfortunately been put together chiefly from second-hand sources, and without much judgment.

British Museum. Wycliffe Exhibition in the King's Library. Arranged by E. M. Thompson, Keeper of the MSS. Printed by order of the Trustees. 1884. 8vo, pp. xix, 68. Price 4d.

The Luther Exhibition at the British Museum, which attracted so much notice last year, is now followed by a Wycliffe Exhibition, which should prove at least as interesting to Englishmen. The catalogue has been prepared by Mr. Thompson, who has prefixed to it, by way of introduction, an excellent sketch of the reformer's life. (See above, p. 98).

Bibliorum Sacrorum Exemplaria, tam manuscripta, quam impressa, quæ in Bibliotheca Lindesiana adservantur. Romæ: ex typographia senatus, 1884. 8vo, pp. 28. Only 50 copies printed for private circulation.

This is a list of the first editions and early MSS. of the texts and versions of the Scriptures forming part of the very remarkable collection at Haigh Hall, which so much delighted our members when they enjoyed the Earl of Crawford's hospitality in September last. It has been drawn up by the owner with great care and bibliographical skill, in preparing for an exhaustive account of the whole of the library. The manuscripts are some of the oldest Abyssinian, Armenian, Coptic, and Samaritan copies in existence, and the printed books include all the rarest and most valuable first editions.

Bibliothèque cynégétique d'un amateur, avec notes bibliographiques, suivie d'un supplément: armes, animaux, fauconnerie, historie, pièces de théâtre, romans, lois et

jurisprudence, le tout relatif à la chasse (catalogué complet des livres de chasse) en vente à Paris: Librairie Firmin-Didot, 1884. Sm. 8vo, pp. 228.

Even the best of the English sale catalogues are not to be compared with the most ordinary specimens of French enterprise in the like direction. Here is the catalogue of a small collection of books on the chase, well compiled, tastefully printed, and illustrated with woodcut portraits, representations of dogs, &c. The collection itself is poor enough, and consists almost entirely of modern French books in ordinary condition.

The Winter Number of the *Bulletin of the Boston Public Library*, in addition to the usual accession lists, contains "a List of the Text-editions and Translations of the Eddas," prepared by Mr. Thorvald Solberg, a very interesting Bibliography of "Matthew Arnold," and a further instalment of an "Index of Articles upon American Local History in Historical Collections in the Boston Public Library."

The May number of the *Harvard University Bulletin* containing the usual classified list of accessions, and continuation of a "Bibliography of Ptolemy's Geography" of "the Kohl Collection of Early Maps" and the "Classified Index to Maps in Petermann."

The seventh number (April 1) of the *Bulletin of the Mercantile Library of Philadelphia* contains an interesting article, entitled "Reading Notes on Wycliffe," by Mr. John Edmands, the librarian.

The June number of the *Bibliographer* contains the first instalment of a long article on the famous "Fortsas Catalogue," reproduced from the New York *Philobiblion* (vol. i. pp. 75-84, April, 1863). We gather from a note on p. 10 that the Editor is not aware that this article has appeared in full already. The English edition contains some very bad misprints not to be found in the *Philobiblion*.

It is understood that the article on the Invention of Printing in the forthcoming volume of the *Encyclopædia Britannica* will be written by Mr. Henry Bradshaw, and the article on the Modern Development and the Practice of the art by Mr. John Southward, author of the "Dictionary of Typography," &c.

Another posthumous volume of papers by our late friend and member, Dr. W. Stanley Jevons, has been published. It is entitled "Investigations in Currency and Finance, illustrated by twenty diagrams; edited, with an introduction by H. S. Foxwell" (London: Macmillan, 1884, 8vo, pp. xliv. 414). The volume has a special interest to us from the valuable bibliography of works on currency and finance (pp. 362-414), drawn up by Dr. Jevons himself.

In the excellent little volume by the Rev. Prof. John Earle on "Anglo-Saxon Literature" (London: S.P.C.K., 1884, sm. 8vo, pp. vi. 262) just added to the "Dawn of Europe: Literature" series, there appears an interesting account of the chief Anglo-Saxon MSS. to be found in English libraries.

The *Deutsche Buchhändler-Akademie*, a new organ, published by Hermann Weissbach at Weimar, proposes to advance the efficiency of the German bookseller, and will treat of all subjects connected with his profession. In the numbers already published have appeared articles on "Die Geschichte der Schriftwerke" (The History of Manuscripts), by Franz Thimm of London (based on a lecture delivered at the German Athenæum); on "Die Buchdruckerkunst in Wien von 1482-1682" (Printing in Vienna), by Edward Zernin; on "Buchhändler-Wappen," etc. (Booksellers Arms, etc.), by Max Merseburger; and "Zur Reform Unseres Bibliothekwesens" (Library Reform), by Dr. Ernst Kelchner. The journal is handsomely printed in octavo form, and in a bold type.

In Rev. Hilderic Friend's "Flowers and Flower Lore," London: W. Swan Sonnenschein, 1884, 2 vols. 8vo., we notice "A Brief Bibliography of Flower Lore" (vol. i. pp. ix-xii.).

Correspondence.

An Offer.

The Rev. T. P. Kirkman, whose offer to present to libraries a copy of his "Philosophy without Assumptions" we announced in our last number (p. 80) desires us to add that he will be glad if librarians writing to him for copies will enclose six stamps for postage of the book.

Library Reports and Post Card Notices.

Among the annual reports I have lately received, two or three state that the system they have in operation of notifying borrowers that the books they require are in "continues to give satisfaction." It seems to me that this is not in accord with the name of *free* libraries, or with the intentions of the chief promoters of them, as it gives those people who are in a position to pay for the necessary post cards an advantage over the poorer borrowers. The fines are a very different thing, as no person need pay them unless he chooses, and some poor borrowers are particularly careful not to do so. Where the above mentioned plan is adopted, those persons who are not able to pay for the post cards are placed at a very unfair disadvantage, and they may try in vain for years for a very popular work, as it would always be secured in advance. I suppose in some cases there must be so many applicants for these books that they are continually bespoken some weeks or even months beforehand. Another objection to this plan is, that it lays the librarian open to a charge of favouritism. I once tried putting aside books for borrowers when asked to do so, but found that some who were disappointed a few times in not getting what they wanted, charged me with favouritism. It also very frequently occurred that the books so put aside were, for several days not called for. For these reasons I discontinued this practice as unsatisfactory. It would be of interest to me, and I think to other members, if one or two librarians who are using these cards would give their experience in the Chronicle. I should like also to ask how it is that so many reports have no financial statements? I suppose there must be some good reason for this, but it appears to me that one of the most important and interesting items, both to the ratepayers and librarians, is in such cases omitted. B. Y.

AN ACROSTIC.

L et love of books and books' acquaintance spread;
I n each man's heart let lusty knowledge live;
B ut not in stinted wise bestow the bread
(R ich food to modern minds the muses give)
A mong the hundred hungering crowds that cry,
R eaching out hands and pleading piteously:
"Y e priests of plenty spare of your supply."

C lamouring the crowds have knocked at learning's door,
H ave roused the warden pillowed on a tome;
R oom now is made; the poorest of the poor
O f desert hall have made a crowded home;
N ow the old keeper, warming with new toil,
I n his full heart feels youth's impassioned glow;
C an he be sad when wit and wisdom flow
L ike milk and honey o'er his native soil?
E ven all *his* joy in working ours to know!

Free Public Reference Library, Nottingham. J. J. Ogle.

Printed and published for the Library Association of the United Kingdom by J. Davy & Sons, *at the Dryden Press*, 137, *Long Acre, London. Annual Subscription, post free*, 6*s*.

The Library Chronicle.

RESEARCHES FOR MANUSCRIPTS IN THE LEVANT, AND MORE ESPECIALLY, IN THE MONASTERIES OF MOUNT ATHOS: GIOVANNI AURISPA TO SPYRIDION LAMBROS (A.D. 1425 TO 1880).

(Being an abridged Chapter of a forthcoming Book.)

[*Concluded.*]

BY EDWARD EDWARDS.

§ 3. *Researches in the Libraries of the Monasteries of Mount Athos.*

Stay thy foot that passest by:
Here is wonder to descry.
Churches that interred the dead,
Here themselves are sepulchred;
Houses where men slept and wak'd,
Here in ashes under-rak'd; . . .
Or, more fully home to have,
Here are Abbeys in a grave.—ANONYMOUS.

OF the famous group of Monasteries which occupy the pinnacles and slopes of that rugged and singularly picturesque peninsula known as "The Holy Mountain," now within Roumelia, one or two claim, traditionally, an origin almost as ancient (but far less authenticated) than that of the earliest of the Egyptian communities of Nitria. Probably no historical evidence can be adduced that will distinctly carry the origin of any of them beyond the ninth century. Most of them belong to still later dates of the Byzantine Empire, and range from the tenth to the sixteenth century. Several of the Emperors came here from the pageantry and the turmoil of Byzantium to end their days in ascetic seclusion.

Of twenty monasteries which still exist—or are buried alive in a sort of trance—on the peninsula of Mount Athos, four are mentioned in records of the tenth century, namely, Laura, Watopédion, Iwiron, and Xiropotámu.[1] The last-named Monastery fell into ruin soon after the Mohammedan conquest of Constantinople, and it had the singular fortune of being rebuilt at the cost of Sultan Selim I., the conqueror of Egypt.

Of some striking aspects and characteristics of this group of Greek communities

[1] I follow usually the orthography of Spyridion Lambros, as given in his official report of 1880, fully noticed hereafter, but I make exception as to names of saints.

that have preserved, towards the end of the nineteenth century, modes of life, manners, and government, of which the germs may be traced at latest to the ninth century, a recent French traveller, M. Eugène de Vogüé, has given an excellent and most charming description.[1] His visit was made in 1875. But a prefatory word or two may be given to the scenery. For the first twelve miles the peninsula maintains a table-land elevation of about 600 feet, which is well wooded, and of which the breadth is at first nearly two miles, expanding towards the southern extremity to twice that breadth, and there rise irregularly and almost abruptly heights of 1,200 and of 1,700 feet above the sea-level. On the eastern slope of the ridge, and about mid-way between the eastern and western shores, stands Karyä, amidst gardens and vineyards. To the south of Karyä the ground rises to nearly 2,200 feet, and a grandly-rugged country, covered with forest, stretches away to the foot of Mount Athos itself, whose peak soars to a height of more than 6,300 feet. It is amidst scenery such as this that the traveller approaches monastic abodes teeming with the associations and the memories of more than eleven centuries. On few spots of earth, save in the Holy Land itself, can the study of what may yet be seen surviving help more powerfully to bring before the mind, under vivid light, a knowledge of the Christian East of the primitive ages.

The origins of these communities, and of their literary labours and acquisitions, are not only Greek and Byzantine, but Slavonic and Italian. Chiliantaríu, for example, was reorganised by a Prince of Servia towards the close of the twelfth century. The son of that restorer became Igonmenos of Watopédion. At the beginning of the thirteenth the Catholic Monastery of Omorphono was established, under the patronage of Pope Innocent III., and was colonised with monks, who sailed from Amalfi. Its ivy-covered ruins serve to give occasional shelter to goatherds, whose flocks now people one of the most picturesque sites of the Holy Peninsula. When the wave of crusading conquest was rolled back, the Greeks had again a flourishing time of some three centuries' duration. New monasteries arose, St. Peter, St. Dionysius, Kastamonítu, and others. Amidst all the strife between decaying Byzantines and rising Slavs, the monks of the Holy Mountain continued to prosper. The bulk of their revenue was drawn from endowments given at various times by the bygone Voïvodes of Moldo-Wallachia, and a fair proportion of their means was long devoted, first, to the adornment of their buildings by works of art, always of the Byzantine type, traditional, unprogressive, and as it were petrified, yet rich in material and varied in kind—sculpture, carving, enamelling, painting were all employed;—and secondly, to the lavish enrichment of their libraries. These in some of the convents attained great extent and value, and the chief libraries of Europe now prize amongst their choice show-books not a few which date their origin from the prosperous times of the communities of Mount Athos.

The monks contrived to make fair terms with the Mohammedan conquerors of Constantinople. For a small yearly tribute, honestly paid, they obtained confirmation of their privileges, which were honourably observed. It is said that when under Mohammedan rule the number of the ascetics reached to 10,000;[2] but long before they attained to these large numbers, MSS. and libraries had ceased to be a primary object of care.

Some of the first and most precious of the early book-treasures of Mount Athos

[1] Vogüé, *Le Mont Athos*, in the *Revue des deux Mondes* (1876), sér. iii. tom. xiii., pp. 281 *seqq.*

[2] Vogüé, *ut supra.*

came from Cæsarea. Thence, for example, came a portion of a *Commentary on the Epistles of St. Paul*, transcribed at Cæsarea in the sixth century, bearing on its face the certificate of its transcriber, and made, there is good reason to believe, from a MS. in the handwriting of St. Pamphilus.[1]

If the good monks of S. Athanasius, who had treasured up this precious relic of the destroyed Cæsarea, bringing with it associations for ever sacred, could have looked down upon their too-busy successor, Igoumenos or Abbot Macarius, who, at the beginning of the thirteenth century, plumed himself upon the energy with which he "restored" his library and made it look respectable,—like some other "restorers," his congeners amongst ourselves, who hide Christian paintings, if they themselves are poor, behind whitewash; if rich, behind "the best wainscot," and who cut away Christian sculpture to make room for comfortable pews—they must have had a pang of horror. The too-antiquated MSS. were, thought Macarius, most usefully employed as stiffeners and end-papers for bindings of new ones. From S. Athanasius these relics came to Paris (hid in the bindings for which Macarius had used them), and they passed, with the noble collection of Séguier and of Coislin, to the Library of the Kings of France, as I have elsewhere related.

Amongst the earlier explorers of these Monastic Libraries, when they had ceased to be amongst the primary objects of the care, the industry, and the pride of their owners, was John Lascaris, who is said on credible authority to have brought from Mount Athos about 200 volumes of Greek MSS. These, it is probable, were collected by Lascaris about the year 1480.

Eventually, Abbot Macarius had successors even more unworthy than himself. Old travellers report that certain monks of S. Athanasius of a later date were such devoted lovers of the gentle craft, that when they ran short of appliances for attaching the bait to the line, they had recourse to the fly-leaves of early MSS., and when the fly-leaves were used up did not stop there. Others even sold manuscripts by the pound-weight to Turks of Salonica, to make cartridges.

Yet, despite all these ravages, so rich were the libraries, so assiduous had been the labours of the monks of old time in the Convents of Monte Santo, that amongst the twenty subsisting communities recent explorers have reckoned an aggregate of about 8,000 manuscripts, Greek and other, ranging in date from the tenth to the sixteenth century.[2] Those of the tenth century are especially numerous. *Gospels* and *Psalters* occur of all the schools of Eastern caligraphy—Greek, Roman, Cyrillic, Georgian, Armenian, Arabic. Greek fathers and Byzantine chroniclers are, of course, abundant. The few classical authors that occur in manuscript are of recent transcription, but most commonly they present themselves in the printed editions of Venice of the sixteenth century. Amongst these are many Aldines, especially at Xiropotámu,[3] where there is also a considerable collection of the theology of the Reformation period, in German as well as in Latin. There, too, is a copy of the *New Testament* of Erasmus.

1 Montfaucon, *Palæographia Græca*, pp.252, *seqq.* There is a *fac-simile* of a page of this precious MS. in Silvestre, *Paléographie Univ.*, i. 119. There are preserved, it may be added, twelve leaves, only, in the National Library at Paris. The writing is in mixed uncials, and is rescript; perhaps, of the eleventh century. The leaves are not strictly consecutive.

2 *Catalogue des MSS. du Mont Athos*, printed in Sathas; *Bibliotheca Graeca Medii Ævi* tom. i. (Ven. 1872. 8vo.); Cf. Miller, art. in *Journ. des Savans*, 1874, 279 *seqq.* and Lambros, *ut infra.*

3 Vogüé, 311, 312.

The *Bible*, in Glagolitic characters, which is now shown to travellers of bibliographic tastes in the Imperial Library of S. Petersburgh, came from Zográfu.[1]

M. Vogüé has taken note that the only book which he saw any monk actually engaged in reading during his recent visit, was the *Tableau de Paris*, of 1840, with the cuts of "Grandville." Another monk with whom he had much talk showed great familiarity with the French and Italian "philosophic" literature of the last century.

The monks by whom these once splendid libraries were formed drew their culture from quite other sources; they were students, diligent and devout. The men who drew the figure of our Blessed Lord at Karyä, and that of the Virgin Mary at Dochiaríu, had, we may well believe, fought the Christian battle, and had lived the Christian life. They had, as Vogüé has also noted, from abounding evidence, not a few points of resemblance with the ascetics who first peopled the Thebaid,—with the best of the anchorites of the primitive days of the Christian Church.

When the well-known and fruitful visit of Fallmerayer took place in 1841, he estimated the then resident monks and their servants as amounting collectively to about 2,000.[2] More than the half of this collective number belonged to the four chief monasteries, S. Laura, Watopédion,[3] Iwiron, and Xiropotámu. Next in numerical rank to these four came Chiliantariu.[4] The remaining seven or eight hundred of monks and servitors were scattered over fifteen convents.

Two years later (1843) Mynas made his first visit, and made it very memorable by his discovery at S. Laura of the famous and unique MS. of the *Mythiambics* of Babrius, which now adorns the MS. Department of our own National Library. It contains 123 fables, of which only twelve were known in their entirety prior to that discovery. Some others were partially known by mere fragments, extracts, and citations, widely scattered. The well-known publication of the late Sir George Cornewall Lewis, valuable, nevertheless, for its editorial illustrations and comments, was based upon a MS. so corrupt and fictitious that it may be described justly as a "forgery."

At first Mynas brought back to France (where his mission originated) only a transcript. It was seen at once that the original, precious as it was, was still a mere school book, not a recension made for scholars. But its great value was also seen, and the discoverer soon made a second journey expressly to endeavour to secure the original, and the effort was successful. Competent opinion *then* differed widely as to the date, and it differs still, though within a narrower range. The "Editio Princeps," edited by Boissonade, appeared in 1844. Between the publication of that and the issue of Mr. Rutherford's admirable edition of last year (1883) no less than thirteen several editions appeared. The "Babrius" made a sort of epoch in literary curiosity concerning the convents of the Holy Mountain. The researches of Lambros made a new and more important one.

Upon repeated complaints of the want of catalogues that could be trusted of the MSS., the Greek Government resolved on the mission of Lambros (June, 1880), with the aid of several students of palæography, and with a recommendatory letter from the President of the Central Synod sitting at Karyä. In his report Lambros depicts

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1 Zografo of Vogüé.

2 Fallmerayer, *Fragmente aus dem Orient*, 233, *seqq.*

3 Fallmerayer writes "Vatopädi," but I adopt for uniformity sake the orthography of Lambros (*Report to the Greek Government of* 1880) throughout.

4 "Chilantiu" of Fallmerayer.

strikingly the state of neglect in which he found the Greek MSS. of almost all the libraries, and the abounding evidences of former and frequent depredations. At Watopédion he found an attempt at a catalogue of its Greek MSS. "At Laura only some rough beginnings of such an attempt. . . . . Nowhere amongst all the twenty any attempt to arrange and systematise the MSS. themselves.[1] . . . . . Some were found strewn on the floor of the convent, mixed up with printed books. In certain cases the MSS. were found in boxes and packages of which their owners themselves seemed to know nothing. . . . . The few palimpsests contained in these copies were chiefly written over liturgical works of inconsiderable value.

The labours of Lambros and of his zealous helpers resulted in the careful cataloguing of nearly 6,000 Greek MSS., more or less considerable. Those belonging to each convent are enumerated in gross in the subjoined table :—

Name of Monastery.	Number of MSS. catalogued.
1. Iwiron	1,386
2. St. Dionysius	588
3. Kutlumusiu	461
4. Dochiariu	395
5. Xiropotámu	342
6. Esfigménu	320
7. St. Pantaleon	264
8. Filotheu	250
9. Karakâllu	250
10. Simonos Petrâs	245
11. Pantokrátoros	234
12. Stawronikíta	162
13. Xenophontos	163
14. Grigoríu	155
15. Kastamonítu	111
16. Sográfu	107
17. Chiliantarfu	105
18. St. Paul	94
19. St. Laura[2]	—
20. Watopédion[2]	—
21. Synod Library, in Karyä	81
22. Chapel of St. Anne	46
Total of Greek MSS. catalogued ...	5759

But the number of the MSS. still remaining in the several convents is far more conspicuous than is their intrinsic value from the distinctively literary point of view. Estimated from the ecclesiastical standpoint their importance is considerable. They contain, as might well be expected, innumerable contributions, more or less valuable, to the history of the Eastern Church. They also include a noble collection of church music.

The Government of Greece is entitled to much credit for defraying the expenses of the mission of 1880-1881. They were defrayed (I believe) very economically; but the Exchequer of Greece is not as that of France or of Britain. It is certain that there is still work of literary exploration yet to be achieved amidst the buried monastic libraries of the Holy Mountain. The explorers are to be envied, for the dulness of their work is relieved by the sight of romantic scenery, and by the lively incidents of distant travel. May their labours prosper, and their own shadows not grow less !

[1] Spyridion Lambros : *Report to Greek Chamber on MSS. of Mont Athos.* Deutsch von Aug. Boltz, *Die Bibliotheken der Klöster des Athos* (Bonn, Nolte, 1881), pp. 16. *seqq.*

[2] Not yet catalogued.

HUMFREY WANLEY AND HIS DIARY.

By W. R. Douthwaite.

II.

Amidst the engrossing cares and occupations of his post as Librarian, Wanley did not lose his interest in Oxford or in the Bodleian. This is shown by many of the letters to Dr. Charlett. In one of these (dated 10th November, 1708) he says: "I hear they are transcribing the catalogue of the printed books in the Bodleyan Library for the Press," and he goes on to suggest that in printing they should "insert the names of the Printers to Books of Learning, which have had several editions." He saw also how necessary for identification it was to note the sizes of books. Dr. Hyde (he says) "owns he looks on all 8vos and books in less volumes, as 8vos, which is wrong; and by these methods a man can never tell (without the trouble of inquiry), whether he has any book in his study fit to bestow on the library or not (if the same book be there before), because the editions were not fix'd."[1]

It is significant that Wanley's experience of booksellers had led him to mistrust the trade generally, and his comments on individuals are of the plainest character.

In Freebairne's (or Fairbairne's) auction (1st December, 1721) he states "that the books in generall went at low, or rather vile prices, through a combination of the booksellers against the sale," although, as before noticed, there were a few notable exceptions.

10th January, 1722-3.

"Mr. Woodman sent hither a large Printed Catalogue of the books he pretends to have lately bought in France, and intends to expose to sale the 22nd inst. In running it over I observe he has not left off his old *custom of lying*."

The minute on Osborne is not wanting in force. It runs thus :—

17th January, 1725-6.

"Mr. Osborne sent for my Lord a Catalogue of the books he intends to sell the 20th inst., under the *borrowed* name of Roger Smith, Esq. This Osborne is as knavish as he is ignorant, and I believe most of the books belong to his brethren of the gang. (N.B.—Since the gang say that the said books belong to Mr. Justice; whose infamy is now become notorious)."

In view of the sale of Mr. John Bridges' library (late of Lincoln's Inn), Noel had a catalogue marked by his Lordship (5th February, 1725-6), with instructions to buy the lots marked, unless they "run at a price too unreasonably dear." On a later day (9th February), Wanley went "to the late Mr. John Bridges' chambers, but could not see the three fine MSS. again; the Doctor, his brother having locked them up. He openly bids for his own books, merely to enhance their price, and the auction proves to be what I thought it would become—very knavish."

The natural and reasonable desire on the part of his brothers, to get the best prices possible for Mr. Bridges' library, rouses Wanley to a pitch of extravagant wrath, and no words are hard enough to express his opinion of such wicked and base conduct. His minute of 11th February, 1725-6 is :—

"Yesterday, at five, I mett Mr. Noel, and tarried long with him. We settled then the whole affair touching his bidding for my Lord at this roguish auction of Mr. Bridges' books. The Reverend Doctor, one of the brothers, hath already displayed himself so remarkably as to be both hated and despised, and a combination among the booksellers will soon be against him and his brother-in-law, a Lawyer. These are men of the keenest avarice, and their very looks (according to what I am told), dart out Harping Irons. I have ordered Mr. Noel to drop every article in my Lord's commission when they shall be hoisted up to too high a price."

[1] Ballard's Letters (Bodleian), xiii, 72.

Even Noel was not altogether to be trusted. He was not to have anything to do with the three MSS. (before adverted to) at the end of the catalogue, which were not to be sold until the 21st or 22nd of the next month (March), the reason being that "if he should buy them for my lord, he will (infallibly spoken), value all his MSS. that he shall sell for the future at a like value."

The diarist, in a most amusing tone of complete candour, goes on to remark :—

"In the meantime, my Lord may (if he pleases) buy those three books [or MSS.] of the Doctor, who will sell anything for ready money ; and to give Mr. Noel, or any other, no further trouble about them."

Bridges' auction being in progress, Noel came (1st March, 1725-6), and acquainted Wanley with the remarkable dealings of the Doctor and others concerned with him, so that he had been "obliged to drop divers of the books my lord had marked." The result was that a few books only were bought there, and sent in 9th March, 1725-6.

After all, the MSS. wanted were not bought by private contract, in spite of the greediness of Dr. Bridges for ready money, as we find by the minute of 24th March, 1725-6 :—

"Mr. Bacon wrote to me that he had just then bought at Bridges's auction for my Lord the fine sett of Hollar's Prints ; the MS. Primer of our King Henry VII., and the fine old Greek MS. of part of Lucian's works. This last is supposed to have been carried from the old Imperial Library at Constantinople to the Monastery of Bobi, near Naples, where it was bought, together with about 40 others, for John de Witt, the late Pensionary of Holland, at the auction of whose library it was bought for the late Mr. Bridges. It is the finest old Greek classical MS. now in England."

Soon after the receipt of the letter above mentioned, and on the same day, Noel and Sloper went to Wanley's lodging on the plea of reporting what had been done at the sale, intimating their conjectures that the said prints and MSS. were bought for "my Lord. But (writes Wanley) they could not fish out anything from me."

Although (as has been seen) Wanley's hours ended at four (if not three) o'clock, he never spared himself in the business of the library. No amount of personal inconvenience weighed with him if he saw a chance of netting anything thereby. He records one notable instance of this self-sacrificing character on the day following the event, viz., 17th March, 1723-4 :—

"Yesterday, in the evening, with my Lord's leave, I went to meet Mr. Blackbourne, who proves to be a non-juring clergyman. I waited above two hours, and after he was come, I could have no private converse with him until it was past two in the morning."

This Mr. Blackbourne then said that two gentlemen who were friends of his, had between them about 997 MSS., including original charters and modern transcripts, but they were not for selling. In order to convince him that his friend's things were not the only rarities in the world, Wanley invited him to visit the Library, hoping not only to enlighten the visitor, but to save the said MSS. from destruction by inducing Lord Harley to purchase them.

The booksellers were naturally desirous to get business, and one or other was always calling. Thus mention is made of Mr. Innys, who came (1st November, 1720), and "promised to serve my Lord with books as cheap as any man."

Mr. Charles Davis came (29th December, 1722), and "I sent him to my noble Lord Oxford, who wants somebody to serve him in the way of out-of-course books, as John Bagford used to do."

"Mr. Bowyer, the bookseller, came to my lodgings (6th February, 1722-3), intreating me to instruct him touching the prices of old editions, and of other rare and valuable books, pretending that thereby he should be the better able to bid for them; but, as I rather suppose, to be the better able to exact of gentlemen. I pleaded utter inexperience in this matter, and, without a quarrell, in my mind rejected this ridiculous attempt with the scorn it deserved."

Wanley's dealings with binders show how his mind entered into every detail of library work. He carefully inspected Elliot's bill (25th January, 1719-20), and found "him exceedingly dear in all the work of Marocco-Turkey and Russia-Leather, besides that of Velvet." On a subsequent day (28th January), he pointed out to Elliot that the same work might have been done as well and cheaper by above £31. Elliot replied that he could have saved £8 in the five books, and yet made them look well; that no man could bind so well as himself, and in the end decided to appeal in writing to my Lord on the subject.

Chapman, another binder, came (20th January, 1721-2) and received three books for binding, and "six Marocco-Skins to be used in my Lord's service." He is desired to come on Wednesday morning following, and to bring his proposals with the skins supplied to him, or some other binder will be found in his stead.

On 17th June, 1721, Wanley notes a letter sent to Elliot, desiring him to call in order to bind the volume of the catalogue, "which I finished to-day."

Elliot brought (24th May, 1722), the parcel last delivered to be bound, five days before the time appointed; but, by setting his servants to work on them, the books were not so well lettered as they might have been, and two days after he received another parcel, promising to do better "if he can." He brought books (3rd December, 1722), of which five were sent back, "in order to amend their *vicious lettering*." Shortly after (9th January, 1722-3), there was "much conversation about the best way of getting out the Cockles risen in my Lord's Virgil, and Tullie's Epistles, both printed upon vellum." Both were taken away to be amended, and all possible care promised to be used about them. Elliot sending for a small parcel of old books to bind, Wanley refused (17th January, 1722-3) to deliver them to anyone but himself. And so on, frequent complaint being made of binding being done but indifferently.

That no pains were spared to obtain the best leather for binding is obvious from the following passage in a letter written to Wanley by his son-in-law, John Beaver, from Gibraltar, 22nd January, 1721:—

"I was in great hopes, amongst the vast quantities of Cordovan skins there were in this place, to have found at least as many as would have served my Lord Harley; but, 'tis almost incredible, I turned over near 200 dozen with my own hands, and did not meet with one that was fit for his purpose, so was forced to employ a merchant in Barbary, who has sent the cream of the countrey, but they are something dearer than usual . . . however, I am persuaded the excellence of them will make amends, being governed by this rule, that the best is the best cheap." (*Harl. MSS.* 3777, f. 179.)

Here and there entries are made which serve to show Wanley's honesty and scrupulousness. Mr. John Stevens, the bookbinder, brought (8th July, 1723) four books, which he offered to sell for two guineas, and came again about them. Wanley says:—"He (foolish man) offered me a gratuity to help him off with them. I told him he did not know me."[1]

"Mr. [David] Casley came (24th November, 1725) to collate my Lord's MSS. of Titus Livius for Mr. D'Orville by my Lord's order. I am civill to him, but when just now he offered me a South-Sea Bond as security to lett him carry one of the said MSS. home to collate it there, I would by no means hearken to such a proposal."

[1] Printed in Nichols' "Literary Anecdotes," vol. i. p. 93, but with date 4th November.

A Mr. Herring came (28th September, 1720) inquiring for the crest belonging to his family. On showing him some arms surmounted by a crest, Wanley says :—

"He would have given me a guinea for my trouble, but I refused it, as I have always hitherto done all presents of that kind from the beginning, thanking him for his kindness, but saying I would by no means sell my Lord's favour."

That the family whom he served valued him highly there can be no doubt. On 25th August, 1724, he writes :—

"This day it pleased my noble Lord (in consideration of my long and faithful service), to augment my salary with 10s. per week, the same to commence upon Midsomer day last."

The Lady Henrietta Cavendish Holles Harley (wife of Lord Harley), in addition to her former bounties—particularly to a large silver tea-pot, formerly given by her Ladyship—was pleased to send to the library (21st July, 1722) by her silversmith a fine large silver tea-kettle, lamp, and plate, with a neat wooden stand, for which favour (he adds)—"I shall never cease from praying Almighty God to bless her, and all this noble family, with all blessings temporal and eternal."

According to Chalmers, Wanley's death "was occasioned by a dropsy." It is very certain that he had been ailing for some time, as frequent allusion is made in the Diary to his being sick :—

"19th May, 1726.—One Mr. Smith, of Boswell Court, brought to my lodging (I then being sick) Dr. Knight's 'Life of Erasmus.'"

"31st May, 1726.—Mr. Vertue, hearing that I was sick, kindly called here to see me."

"7th June, 1726.—Mr. Clifton came to see the library, but I was too weak and too busy to attend him long."

The last entry is :—

"23rd June, 1726.—This morning my Lord sent hither a parcel sent to him yesterday in the evening by Mr. Gibson. It consists of about 25 MSS., whereof four are in Greek ; and five printed books. But since they are not yet agreed for, it is needless to insert any list of them here."

Within thirteen days of making this last minute he died, in the fifty-fifth year of his age. To his constant and unwearied labour in making acquisitions for this library, the nation owe the preservation of so large a number of valuable manuscripts ; and they owe still more to the most noble lady the Duchess of Portland, who was the sole daughter and heir of Edward, second Earl of Oxford, inasmuch as, out of a public spirit beyond all praise, she willed that the whole collection should pass from her hands to the Government at a very moderate sum.

I have now (most inadequately, I fear) touched upon some of the many points that present themselves to view in these two MSS. How much they contain may be inferred from the estimate which I have formed of the number of entries. They cannot, I believe, be less than 7000, all written in a beautifully small, neat, and close hand, economising space to the utmost degree.

Much that I had marked down I am compelled to pass over in the present paper. I ask you to receive it with all its imperfections, as a slight tribute to him whom Dibdin has thus apostrophised : "But see yonder the rough, rude features of HUMPHREY WANLEY peering above the crowd ! All hail to thy honest physiognomy—for thou wert a rare *Book-wight* in thy way ! and as long as the fame of thy patron Harley shall live, so long, honest Humphrey, dost thou stand a sure chance of living 'for aye' in the memory of all worthy bibliomaniacs."[1]

[1] *Bibliomania*, p. 458. For the extracts from the imprinted Ballard MSS. in the Bodleian Library, I have to thank Mr. Thomas. Most of the extracts from Wanley's Diary and other MSS. in the British Museum, have been kindly made for me by Mr. J. A. C. Vincent.

THE PROPOSED ITALIAN "ASSOCIAZIONE BIBLIOFILA."

By Henry R. Tedder.

In the May-June number of *Il Bibliofilo* may be seen proposals for an extremely comprehensive society which will apparently combine some of the leading characteristics of the Börsen-Verein der deutschen Buchhändler, the new English Company of Authors, our own Library Association, and the Vehm-Gericht. The prospectus commences with much solemnity: "There is no doubt that the chief wealth of a nation, whether as regards essential worth or as the result of its production, lies in the fruits of the intellect, wherein at present the supreme strength of humanity is recognized to reside." It goes on to speak of "the book" as the most powerful instrument of mental development, and of Italy as the country most fruitful in books, while it is also the least benefitted by its immense treasures. We forgive this patriotic strain in an Italian speaking of the mother of libraries and of the new birth of letters, although Italy can only be said to have recently awakened from her long mental sleep.

To found a powerful association which shall include the producers, the custodians and the dealers in books, and which shall aim at the moral elevation of everything connected with books is the laudable object of the present scheme. Authors, librarians and booksellers are to unite in peaceful harmony in order to promote this most desirable end, at the same time keeping that shrewd look-out for the main chance which is so healthy a feature of New Italy. One must wish every success to the new movement, although institutions which combine benevolence with profit are seldom prosperous. There are besides persons who go so far as to contend that authors, booksellers, and even librarians are the natural enemies of each other. Publishers blame authors and purchasers alike, and say that most books that are produced do not pay, and from the unceasing complaints on the part of authors one is led to the conclusion that no books ever pay them. There is no hope for a truce between the producer and the dealer until the former conscientiously resolves never to write a book unless it be one sure to command a constant and increasing sale, and the latter magnanimously consents to bring it out without any thought of pecuniary benefit. The consumer has a grievance in the high price of the wares submitted to him, and when he is shown cheap books agrees with Mr. Matthew Arnold when he talks of "these hideous and ignoble things with which, under this name, England and America have made us familiar." Librarians on the other hand, who groan in sympathy with their crowded shelves bending under the ever-increasing weight of new works, are told that they compile catalogues and devise classifications with the chief object of hiding books from the eye of the inquiring student. And even the much abused American publisher, to judge from an article in the June number of *The Bookseller*, has sometimes reason to complain of his virtuous and self-denying British *confrère*.

After some introductory generalities follow the twenty regulations of the proposed constitution. The title of the new society is to be the *Associazione Bibliofila*, and its scope: (1), to keep a watchful eye upon the laws of literary property, and to bring about such amendments as may seem desirable; (2), to see that books of special

rarity and interest, antiquarian treasures, MSS., etc. are neither taken out of the country nor destroyed in ignorance of their value; (3), to promote the sale of good and useful books and their collocation in public and private libraries, and to prevent the production and dissemination of immoral and harmful literature; (4), to establish libraries in the smallest communes, in civil and military hospitals, in barracks, and in fact every kind of institution where people are collected; (5), to found the *credito librario*, intended to help authors and to lend money under certain regulations; and (6), to create mutually beneficial relations between similar institutions in Italy and abroad. These are all excellent objects and deserve our warm sympathy and encouragement. It is not, however, explained how all of them are to be attained.

The seat of the Association is to be at Rome, and it is to be governed by a general council of nine members divided into a financial and a "moral" section. The financial committee will deal with the social economy of the Association, and will control the *credito librario*, which is to consist of an unlimited nnmber of shares at 100 *lire* or £4 each, bearing interest at 5 per cent. besides the dividend. The shares will be negotiable. The operations of the *credito* will consist of lending money to members at 5½ per cent., to shareholders who are not members at 6 per cent., and to others at 6½ per cent. and 7 per cent., but only for objects relating to the production and supply of books. The "moral committee" will look after the tone of the works published under the patronage of the Association, will observe that it does not contravene the laws, and will keep the members informed of intellectual progress throughout the civilized world. This committee is therefore likely to have a busy and lively time. Book-lovers, literary men, librarians and booksellers are eligible as associates, provided they pay punctually the annual subscription (25 *lire* or £1), and exactly follow the regulations. Honorary members may be elected. The council is to duly acquaint members of sales, either private or public, of books, MSS., engravings, etc., and generally to use its influence for their benefit. A passbook of membership will be issued to each person joining, who must keep it "with the most scrupulous secrecy." Any one who betrays the commercial affairs of the Association is liable to be expelled. On the other hand, worthy members may receive a diploma of honour. It is to be hoped that a library-order of merit may some day be instituted to reward those who have been capable of such unusual acts of virtue as to keep silent in reading rooms, to return volumes in an unsullied condition, those who have refrained from borrowing books in an unauthorized manner, to use a delicate periphrase, or those who have seldom needlessly troubled librarians with preposterous demands.

It is pointed out in the *Bibliografia Italiana* for June 15 that the originators of this much embracing scheme appear to have been unaware of the fact that the *Associazione tipografico-libraria Italiana*, which publishes that useful periodical, has been in existence for many years, and has always had for its special function to watch over the copyright laws, and that the *Società Italiana degli autori* deals with other parts of the programme. It is also suggested that the proposals of *Il Bibliofilo* might be profitably discussed at the approaching third *Congresso Italiano per la proprietà letteraria ed artistica* to be held at Turin, August 24 to 27, under the auspices of the *Società Italiana degli autori*, the *Associazione tipografico-libraria Italiana*, and the *Associazione della Stampa*, presided over respectively by Signori Tullo Massarini, Emilio Treves and Ruggero Bonghi. No country is so overrun with pirated reprints as Italy, and although the preceding congresses have done all they could the evil is as great as ever. It is intended to

organize an exhibition of recent surreptitious editions in order to strengthen the hands of government and of those interested in putting an end to this traffic.

France has been supplied since 1838 with her *Société des gens de Lettres* which has done such good service for authors and copyright. In England we are anxiously expecting Mr. Walter Besant's society for the reform of the laws of literary property and the general promotion of authorship, and which is to defend young writers in their commercial dealings and to instruct them in the mysterious arts of the publisher. Book-making is therefore likely soon to assume proportions beyond our worst fears, and what with Mr. Besant's charming but injudicious *Art of Fiction*, in which the fabrication of novels is made clear to the meanest capacity, the late Mr. Anthony Trollope's revelation of the great "cobbler's wax" theory of literary inspiration, and the recent frank unbosomings of French and English playwrights, so much resembling Dr. Lynn's refrain of "and that's how it's done," the humble librarian and bibliographer have an appalling future to look forward to when the time comes for them to deal with this expected torrent of minor literature. Not a day passes without the foundation of some new society; they are getting so numerous that a society will have to be formed for the sole purpose of their special study. We already have associations for the protection of women and children, of animals, of tradesmen against thieves and civil service stores, and of scientific men against strong-minded female anti-vivisectionists. Why cannot we establish a society for the protection of libraries against the monstrous regiment of worthless new books?

The Library Chronicle.

The LIBRARY CHRONICLE *is issued on the 15th of the month, and communications, books for review, etc., intended for the forthcoming number should be addressed, not later than the 10th of the month, to the Hon. Editor,* ERNEST C. THOMAS, *care of Messrs. J. Davy & Sons, 137, Long Acre, W.C.*

The attention of librarians and library committees, of publishers and booksellers, is called to the advantages of the CHRONICLE *(which represents at least 250 libraries) as an advertising medium. Advertisements of Library Vacancies, and of Books Wanted, or Duplicates for Sale or Exchange by Libraries are inserted at low rates.*

Members of the Library Association whose subscription for the current year has been paid are entitled to receive the CHRONICLE.

Remittances, subscriptions, and advertisements should be sent to Mr. E. M. BORRAJO, *care of the Publishers.*

The Library Association cannot be responsible for the views expressed by the contributors to the CHRONICLE.

The Library Association.

The Monthly Meetings have been suspended for the months of August and September, by a Resolution of the Council, in accordance with Article 20 of the Constitution.

JULY MONTHLY MEETING.

The July Monthly Meeting was held on July 4, at 8 p.m., at the London Institution, Mr. W. H. Overall in the chair.

It was announced that the BIRMINGHAM FREE LIBRARY had joined the Association; and that Mr. E. WYNDHAM HULME, of the Patent Office, Mr. G. S. MATHEWS, President of the Birmingham Library, Mr. D. O'DONOVAN, Librarian of the Queensland Parliament Library, Brisbane, Mr. R. WADE SAVAGE, Librarian of the Obstetrical Society, 54, Berners Street, W., Mr. EVELYN SHIRLEY SHUCKBURGH, Librarian of Emmanuel College, Cambridge, and Mr. B. W. WHEATLAND, Librarian of the Mechanics' Institute, Geeling, Victoria, had become Members of the Association.

Mr. CHARLES DAY, 16, Mount Street, Grosvenor Square, W.; Mr. W. H. MARTIN, 2, South Square, Gray's Inn, W.C.; Mr. E. G. SPIERS, 21, Bernard Street, Russell Square, W.C.; and Mr. JAMES WILSON, 35, Bull Street, Birmingham, having been duly proposed at the last Meeting, were elected Members.

It was agreed to take the Hon. Secretary's paper on "Richard de Bury's *Philobiblon*" as read, and the Meeting adjourned.

Library Echoes.

We fear that the International Conference, which we hoped that some of our leading members would have attended at Toronto, is likely to fall through for the present year. This is due partly to the impossibility of securing an adequate representation of working English librarians, but partly also to the fear that some of the leading American librarians would be unable to attend. But —*differtur non aufertur*, and we must make increased efforts to arrange an English visit next year.

It is to be hoped that the Dublin Meeting will be well attended. No one of course will be so foolish as to think that a meeting across St. George's Channel may not be quite as successful as one on this side, and we are quite sure that everything will be done in Dublin to secure a pleasant and successful meeting.

An amusing incident occurred in connexion with the opening of the new Reading Room at the Cambridge Guildhall. The invitations (printed in a very tasteful style), were dated from the Guildhall. Some of our members, not noticing the Cambridge arms, presented themselves on the evening of the 16th June at the Guildhall of the City of London, and were surprized to find no preparations for their reception.

Mr. D. Dickinson, of West Bromwich, has sent us an account of the starting of a Subscription Library in connexion with the

Free Library there, to which we have already referred, which we hope to print in our next number.

We are compelled to hold over until our next number the Foreign Library News and the usual Record of Bibliography, and several letters from correspondents.

EDITOR.

Library Notes and News.

BANBURY.—On July 3rd the Institute which Mr. B. Samuelson has presented to the borough at a cost of several thousand pounds was opened by Mr. Mundella, who announced that Mr. Samuelson was to be made a baronet. The building contains accomodation for reading rooms, lending and reference libraries, and art and science classes.

BELFAST.—The foundation stone of the Free Public Library was laid by the Viceroy (Earl Spencer), on June 18th. His Excellency afterwards delivered an address, and was entertained at a banquet by the Mayor.

CAMBRIDGE.—The handsome new Reading Room which has just been added to the Free Library, was opened by a Conversazione on June 16th. The Mayor delivered a brief address, in the course of which he referred in high terms to the energy and courtesy of the librarian, Mr. Pink.

HUCKNALL TORKARD.—Messrs. H. B. Paget and J. E. Ellis have offered to contribute a sum of £2000 towards erecting a Free Library, if the Local Board will provide a suitable site.

LEEDS.—The books of the Leeds Public Library have been transferred to their new home, in an exceedingly short space of time. The thirty thousand volumes of the Lending Library were removed from the old building and rearranged in the new one in the remarkably short space of two days. Nine hundred volumes were issued the next day. Even the Reference Library took only a week to transfer. Mr. Yates is to be congratulated on the skill and energy with which the task has been accomplished.

LONDON : BRITISH MUSEUM.—We have much pleasure in recording another of the many benefits to students which have marked the public-spirited administration of the British Museum under Mr. Bond. Since July 8 readers have been permitted to consult on the shelves a special collection of large sized works, consisting chiefly of prints, connected with art, architecture, and archæology. The selection, which extends to about 2000 volumes, is placed in the northern library.

NOTTINGHAM. — In consequence of pressure brought to bear upon members of the Town Council by the ratepayers in several parts of the borough, the Council requested the Free Library Committee to report upon the advisability and expense of opening several new reading rooms and branch libraries in the town. In their report to the Council they recommended "that six new reading rooms be established, in addition to those already opened at Bulwell, Sneinton, and the Meadows," at an estimated cost for each reading room of £250 per annum. Ultimately it was resolved to open seven branch reading rooms, and to grant a sum equal to a ½d. rate for their support. The Council have also adopted the report of a special committee recommending the purchase of certain machinery and apparatus for lighting the central libraries and reading rooms with electricity. In the lower room, this has been for some time past very satisfactorily done, the apparatus being hitherto lent by the manufacturers.

We have to announce several appointments. Mr. Ballinger, of Doncaster, has returned to the Cardiff Free Library as Chief Librarian, while Mr. W. E. Williams, assistant-librarian at Cardiff, has taken Mr. Ballinger's place at Doncaster. Mr. Hall, of Rotherham, has been appointed Librarian to the New Nicholson Institute at Leek.

The June number of the *Library Journal* quotes from the *Publishers' Weekly* some remarks on the need a bookseller has to know about binding, under the heading "What a Librarian should know about Binding."

The July number of the *Sunday Review* contains an article by Mr. Fred. W. Dyer on "Free Public Libraries for London."

Library Catalogues and Reports.

Liverpool. Annual Supplementary Catalogue of the Liverpool Library (with the Laws and Report), 1884. Liverpool, 1884. 8vo, pp. 89.

A very carefully compiled catalogue of the 1314 volumes purchased during the year, arranged under subjects and authors' names. The report is principally taken up with an account of the litigation with the Committee of the News-room. The income for the year was £1,201 9s. 2d.

Buffalo. Forty-Eighth Annual Report of the Executive Committee of the Young Men's Association of the City of Buffalo. . . . Buffalo, N.Y., 1884. 8vo, pp. 46.

The stock of this library is 46,809 volumes, of which 3,085 were added during the year. The issues were 99,108—an increase of 745. The Superintendent reports that no less than 471 volumes were missing when the annual inventory was taken, nearly all of which had been removed from the cases of new books, novels and reference books, which are open to readers. The income of this Institution amounts to $15,012·38.

Ealing Free Public Library. The First Annual Report of the Free Library Committee, 1883-84. Ealing. 8vo, pp. 16.

The Acts were adopted on the 23rd of January, 1883, as a result of the movement originated by the present Chairman of the Committee, Mr. J. Allen Brown. The reading room was opened on the 1st of August, and it is estimated that it has been used by 47,000 readers. The issues from the lending library, which was opened on the 10th of December, were 18,655 for 75 days. The total stock consists of 2,417 volumes. The amount realized by the rate was £415 3s. 6d.

Handsworth Public Library. Report of Committee for year ended 25th March, 1884. 8vo, pp. 23.

The total number of volumes in the library is now 6,855, of which 354 were added during the past year. The issues were 40,699, being a decrease of 1,110. Although 2,118 less works of fiction were borrowed it is satisfactory to note that the total in the other classes has been increased by 1,288. The Committee recommend the establishment at Perry Barr of at least a news-room, as soon as the library funds will permit.

Leicester. The Thirteenth Annual Report of the Free Libraries Committee of the Borough of Leicester, 1884. Leicester. 8vo, pp. 36.

The issues from the lending department were 138,909, and from the reference department 34,830. A week's census of the attendance in the reading room gave a total of 12,720. The Leicestershire collection has been increased by 118 volumes and pamphlets. The first branch of this library, situated in Garendon Street, is the gift of Mr. Councillor Hart, and was opened in June, therefore the report only supplies information of six months' working. It appears to have been attended with great success, the issues for the half-year amounting to 26,131. Of the stock of 4,298 volumes, 1,574 were given by Mr. Hart.

Borough of Nottingham. Annual Report of the University College and Free Library Committee, 1883-84. . . . 8vo, pp. 18.

The libraries and reading rooms now contain 38,830 volumes, of which 8,689 have been added since the last report. The total issues during the year were 233,239, of which 188,811 were for home reading. It is estimated that nearly 750,000 visits were made to the libraries and reading rooms. Over 10,000 persons are entitled to borrow books. The catalogue of the principal lending library being out of print, it is announced that a new edition is in preparation.

Richmond. Free Public Library, Richmond, Surrey. Third Annual Report of the Committee, 1883-84. Richmond, 1884. 8vo, pp. 16.

The success of this library continues to increase, and already complaint is made of want of adequate accomodation. The issues from the lending department were 79,058—a decrease of 2 ; from the reference department, 7,913—an increase of 1,069. 734 volumes were added to the stock, making a total of 10,644. A new catalogue is stated to be in preparation.

Correspondence.

The Purchase of Books.

The *Library Journal* for June has an article on the discussion which has been going on in the *Centralblatt für Bibliothekswesen* and the *Neuer Anzeiger* respecting the manner of purchasing books in libraries. Professor Dziatzko contends that they should always be bought as cheaply as possible, while Dr. Julius Petzholdt holds the opinion that the chief object of the librarian should be to get his books as early as possible, and not to wait until they can be had at second hand. Dr. Petzholdt buys at once from the first person who sends to him, has no appointed bookseller, and never deals with a publisher direct. The *Library Journal* considers that it is the duty of the librarian "to get as much as he can with the money entrusted to his charge," although "it may be expedient to pay something extra for early delivery." I heartily agree with this view, but I do not see why the two plans of rapidity of supply and cheapness of cost should not be in some respect united. In no library are all the necessary new books wanted immediately as they come out. This extreme promptitude can be only imperative as regards a small proportion which of course should always be procured at the earliest possible occasion. The vast majority of desirable accessions even as regards recent works may just as well wait for some months or even longer to give the buyer the benefit of the second-hand market. To most idle people new books are merely objects of curiosity, which should be seen as early as possible or not at all, although severe students sometimes like to turn over the recent volumes in the hopes of coming across something of merit. The works likely to be in permanent demand are comparatively few. An additional argument for waiting is that the verdict of time frequently shows that the book so highly considered on its first publication is not worth a resting place upon the shelves. All librarians know that when once a book finds its way into the catalogue it is extremely difficult to get rid of it. There are also the considerations of better and cheaper editions. As a general rule, however, if a book is worth having at all it is worth having in its original shape, even should a later edition also be desirable. At the Athenæum the practice has long been to obtain all the best works in current English and foreign literature directly as they appear, from Mudie's and other circulating libraries, returning them after a month or six weeks and buying such as might be wanted to place on the shelves after the first demand has passed away. I have often thought that this process of having new books "on approbation" for a specified time might be adopted by almost every kind of library. It has a marked tendency to keep the main body of the collection of a much more select character than would otherwise be the case. We used formerly to purchase our books new and uncut; for some time past we have found it more expedient to wait a little longer for most of our additions and to procure them at second hand. The saving in money has been very considerable. We advertise and send round lists of *libri desiderati*, a process which is attended with better results than conducting the operations through a bookseller. The economy of the extra commission is not the chief consideration. Country booksellers are more ready to report to a librarian than to a brother tradesman, as in this manner the consumer is reached at once. There have been many complaints in the trade journals that offers to booksellers are usually fruitless. Sometime or other the Library Association ought to be able to keep a "books wanted" department going, and have a collector to make the rounds of the London trade. Of course all these remarks can only apply to the class of ordinary and common literature. For rarer books I still consider it safer and cheaper in the long run to cultivate business relations with one or more second-hand booksellers and pay them for their knowledge and experience.

Henry R. Tedder.

Printed and published for the Library Association of the United Kingdom by J. Davy & Sons, *at the Dryden Press*, 137, *Long Acre, London. Annual Subscription, post free*, 6*s*.

The Library Chronicle.

THE FIRST ENGLISH BOOK ON ANGLING.

By William E. A. Axon.

I.—DAME JULIANA BERNERS.

THE lady who is variously styled Juliana or Julyana Barnes, or Berners, was born, it is supposed, about the end of the fourteenth century, at Roding-Berners, in the Hundred of Dunmow in Essex. She is believed to have been the daughter of Sir James Berners, knight, of that place, and sister of Sir Richard, who was created Baron Berners by Henry IV. It is farther supposed that she was Prioress of Sopwell Nunnery in Hertfordshire. These are all the circumstances that learned ingenuity has been able to connect with her name. Bale asserts that she was eminently endowed with superior qualities alike of body and of mind, and held the sports of the field in the highest estimation as solaces of human life. He states that she wrote *in Anglico sermone* on the arts of hawking, hunting and heraldry, and is said to have edited—put forth—a treatise on fishing. "Dicitur et de piscatione edidisse opusculum" are his words. It would hardly be judicious to lay stress upon this form of words, as "editing" in the modern sense would be unknown.

Juliana Berners came of an ancient family whose pedigree began with the Conquest. Her father was beheaded in 1388 as one of those whose counsels had misled Richard II. Her brothers were the first Lord Berners already named, Thomas Berners of Writtle, and William Berners of Finchfield in Essex. The heralds make no mention of Juliana, but their silence is supposed to be due to her having taken the vows of a religious life, after which she would be regarded as dead to her own people and to the world at large. Even had this not been the case, the omission of names in early genealogical records is unfortunately too common for its negative evidence to outweigh the general tradition which links her name to this family. The title of "Dame," which is usually prefixed to her name, is not an evidence of her nobility and consideration, but a curious instance of the manner in which the distinctions of the world manage to creep into the laws or customs of societies and communities professedly based on principles which involve a condemnation of all such distinctions. The lady was a nun of the Benedictine order. Those who possessed property and paid for their maintenance in the house were styled "dames," and enjoyed greater privileges and consideration than were accorded to the humbler lay sisters, who performed the menial offices of

the household and waited upon the richer *religieuses*, who were known also as choir-nuns. One of the humbler class might, however, be selected as abbess. When a lay sister was advanced to the dignity of the choir she became a "dame."

The nunnery of Sopwell was founded in 1140, and was in some sort dependent upon the great abbey of St. Albans. In the prioress of this house of nuns we find the writer of one of the earliest sporting books in the language! Haslewood has expressed the very natural sense of wonder that one so placed as Dame Juliana, burdened with the cares of a religious house, should have displayed so great an interest in and familiarity with amusements that, to say the least, are remote from the usual ideas of conventual piety and seclusion. She may have gained the experience that would furnish the material for her writings before she took the veil. It has even been conjectured that some disappointment encountered in the gay life of the court, where "all is not gold that glitters," may have led to her adoption of the monastic habit. The compilation with which her name is associated would thus be a reminiscence of past joys and an employment of leisure.

The scanty facts concerning her are thus summed up by Haslewood:—"Her name to the Book of Hunting stands most prominent. Next the date given by Bale, whose delineation of her appears to have been drawn from the second edition of her work, as he attributed to her pen the Treatise on Angling then first printed; her being prioress of Sopwell, which rests on the united authority of Burton and Chauncy, though the date remains to be discovered by some more fortunate investigator; and lastly the probability of her being related to the Berners family." It must be admitted that the entire biography rests on a series of more or less probable conjectures, as all that is really known of her is contained in the distich to be presently quoted.

The work usually attributed to Dame Juliana is that known as the Book of St. Albans, because it was printed in that city in 1486 by the nameless printer who is often called the schoolmaster of St. Albans. The volume opens with a treatise on hawking, which is followed by a discourse on hunting. This is in verse, and ends thus:—

> Your play for to wynn or that you come inne,
> Explicit Dam Julyans Barnes in her boke of Huntyng.

The third part of the volume deals with coat armour, and is said to be substantially a translation from the Latin of Nicholas Upton, whose book, *De re militari et factis illustribus*, dates from about 1441. The only claim to authorship is that contained in the final lines of the book of hunting.

In 1496 there came forth from the press of Wynkyn de Worde a second edition of the book of St. Albans, but to the three parts of the first issue there was now added a fourth, the precious treatise on angling now to be discussed. Its inclusion was apparently the work of the printer. The last paragraph states that to prevent its coming into the hands of each idle person who would desire it if it were printed in a "lytyll plaunflet," it has been compiled in a greater volume of divers books of interest to gentle and noble men.

Who wrote the treatise of fishing with an angle? It would be difficult to establish Dame Juliana's claim to the authorship of the whole of the first edition of the Book of St. Albans, and the evidence is still more shadowy as to her share in the little pamphlet which appears to have been incorporated with that work by the editorial acumen of Wynkyn de Worde when printing the second edition.

The Treatise on Fishing shows far more literary feeling than the other tracts. The first is little more than a collection of recipes about hawking. The heraldry is merely a translation. The Boke of Hunting is chiefly technical. But in the treatise on Angling we find evidence, if only in a rudimentary form, of that philosophical and contemplative spirit which has since added such treasure to our literature. The moral sense is invoked to respect the rights and properties of others. The idea that animals have any claim upon human consideration had scarcely at that period arisen in England, but there is, nevertheless, quite observable a difference in tone between this and the other tracts bound with it.

A lady situated as Dame Juliana Berners is supposed to have been is less likely to have achieved distinction as an angler than as a huntress. That some of the gentlewomen of the middle ages were minions of Diana we know, but instances of their attainment of celebrity as fishers are wanting. Haslewood conjectures that the allusion in the Treatise on Fishing to a book on hunting written by the Duke of York, "late called Mayster of the Game," will enable us to fix approximately the date of composition. The work in question was written by Edmund de Langley, who was created Duke of York in 1385, and died in 1402. The precise meaning of the phrase relied upon is not devoid of ambiguity.

Haslewood, after minutely examining the question of the authorship of the Book of St. Albans, considers that the lady cannot be credited with more of it than the following portions:—

1. A small portion of the treatise on hawking.
2. The Treatise on Hunting.
3. A short list of the beasts of the Chace.
4. And another short list of beasts and fowls.

There is an argument we have not yet adduced in favour of considering Dame Juliana Berners to be the author of the Treatise on Fishing. We leave to Mr. Van Siclen the full responsibility for it, and allow him to state in his own words the ungallant reasons which lead him to think that there is a lady in the case:—"The description of how to make a rod seems to me to afford internal evidence that the book was written by a woman, and so does the delightful *non sequitur* in many of the arguments—*e.g.*, where having stated the miseries attending the enjoyment of three other games, the authoress at once jumps to the conclusion that 'dowteles then followyth it, that it must nedes be the disporte of fysshynge with an angle that causeth a long life and a mery.' . . . I must confess I am puzzled to account for the lady's knowledge of so practical a sport; and yet on the Beaverkill, not far from the Willememoc Club House, in Sullivan County, N.Y., I have seen a lady fill her creel with the best; so might the old dame and her nuns have done in England just prior to the time when this continent was discovered, and long before the Willememoc had been heard of."

(To be Continued.)

A YEAR'S WORK AT THE BRITISH MUSEUM.

THE account[1] of their stewardship rendered to Parliament each year by the Principal Librarian and the Heads of Departments at the British Museum, is a document full of interest. Its importance demands that we should give our readers a fuller account of it than our space allows us to give of the annual reports of other institutions. Yet for the full narrative here given of the details of the work done in the various departments of the Museum we must refer the readers to the Return itself. We can find room for little more than a summary statement of the activities of the year.

The statements of accounts with which the Return commences do not refer to the monies voted by Parliament for the maintenance of the Museum, which are elsewhere accounted for, but to the endowments, which form a separate source of revenue. They consist of the Bridgewater Fund, out of which the Egerton Librarian receives £210. per annum, the Farnborough Fund, producing about £86. a year; the Swiney Fund, bequeathed to establish lectures in geology; the Birch Fund which provides £16. 18s. 3d. per annum to be divided among the three under-librarians of the Museum, whose offices existed in 1766, now represented by the senior keepers of Printed Books, MSS., and Natural History, and finally the White Bequest, of which we gave some account in the first number of the Library Chronicle, and of which some £15,000. is still unexpended.

Then follows a comparative statement of the Number of Persons admitted to visit the General Collections of the Museum since 1878, and of the visitors to the Museum at South Kensington since its opening. It appears that the number of visitors to the General Collections, which had been rapidly advancing since 1878, fell from 767,402 in 1882, to 660,557 in 1883. This fall is due no doubt to the removal of the Natural History Collections, always, as Mr. Bond has recently pointed out, the most popular, to the new building at South Kensington. It is perhaps only fair to add the number of persons who have been to South Kensington in the year, viz.—277,331 (a decrease of a few hundreds on the previous year), though it is not quite clear from the Return whether they are not already included in the larger number. Then we must add the number of visits paid by students, which were—to the Bloomsbury Museum 859,836 as compared with 963,869 in the previous year, and to the Cromwell Road Museum 9,322, a considerable advance on the previous year. The visits paid to Bloomsbury include of course those made to the Reading Room—which were 152,983, and to which we ought to add those to the Departments of Maps and MSS., which would bring up the number to 155,219, as compared with 149,288 in the previous year.

The Principal Librarian has recently discussed[2] the policy of the transference of the Natural History Collection to South Kensington. "The ideal which the British Museum should aim at is an encyclopædia of knowledge," and on this ground he regrets the severance of the Natural History Collection from the books that describe them. Some of our readers may remember that the late Professor Rolleston vigorously upheld this view at the Oxford Meeting of the Library Association. Mr. Bond doubts moreover whether the move will be as economical as was expected. Land may have been cheaper

[1] See *post*, p. 134. [2] See *post*, p. 131.

at South Kensington, but it is doubtful whether the necessary duplication of officers and servants will not in the long run more than counterbalance the initial economy, and then of course there will be the additional expense of a separate Natural History Library at the New Museum.

More space indeed was imperatively needed at Bloomsbury, and Mr. Bond reports here on the way in which the rooms set free by the removal have been applied to the accomodation of the other departments.

Among the more important incidents of the year, which are summarised by the Principal Librarian, have been the Luther Exhibition, the purchase of the Stowe MSS. and the issuing of a number of catalogues and other publications all duly enumerated here—among them being a volume of Mr. Ward's "Catalogue of Manuscripts of Romances," and volumes of the "Catalogue of Paintings and Drawings" by Mr. F. G. Stephens, and "Catalogue of Early Prints" by Dr. Willshire.

Progress has been made with the printing of the Map Catalogue to the letter M. With regard to the General Catalogue, Mr. Bullen reports that 70 manuscript volumes have been broken up during the year, and turned into 17 volumes of print. The headings Æschylus, Æsop, Byron, Swedenborg and Xenophon have been also issued in a separate form. Progress is also being made with the printing of the entire Catalogue. The whole of the letter A is reported to be in type, except *Academies* and *Aristotle*, the latter of which has since been printed. The printing of the separate Catalogue of English Books to 1640 was also completed—and we announce its publication in our present number.

The number of articles received in the Department of Printed Books was 94,306, and the number of books and pamphlets sent to be bound during the year was 17,911, while 2,449 parcels of newspapers have been packed, labelled and stored away in packages, to avoid the expense of binding. This is the barest summary of many interesting figures, and we have no space at all to refer to the long list of the more remarkable acquisitions of the year.

The number of MSS. acquired during the year was 1,200, besides 576 detached seals and casts, and without including 66 Oriental MSS. also acquired.

In the Department of Prints, Professor Colvin reports that the total number of prints, drawings and photographs, acquired during the year was 6,012.

For the work done and the acquisitions made in the Department of Oriental Antiquities, of Greek and Roman Antiquities, of British and Mediæval Antiquities, and Ethnography, in the Department of Coins and Medals, and the several Departments of Natural History, we must refer to the Return. We merely note that the Departmental Library in the Department of Zoology has now 5,362 works (p. 40), and that the General Library of Natural History (at South Kensington) has now 9,920 volumes, of which a catalogue is being printed (p. 59).

In conclusion we notice with a satisfaction which we are sure will be shared by our country members, a statement by Mr. Bond that "instructions have been given to Keeper of Departments to put aside duplicate objects and specimens for the formation of a collection to be lent for exhibition in the provinces." Ts.

MRS. BRAY AND HER WRITINGS.

By G. C. Boase.

Anna Eliza Bray was born in the parish of St. Mary, Newington, Surrey, on the 25th December, 1790, at six o'clock in the morning precisely. Her father, John Kempe, of a Cornish family, was born in 1748; became bullion porter in the Royal Mint in the Tower of London, which situation he held during fifty years, and died in the New Kent Road, London, 1st June, 1823. His wife was Ann, daughter of James Arrow, of Westminster. She was born at Tothill Fields, Westminster, 24th February, 1745-46, and died at Rodney Buildings, New Kent Road, London, 17th March, 1835.

The subject of this notice was born with a delicate constitution, and when five years of age had a violent inflammation in her eyes, from the effects of which she suffered throughout the remainder of her life. Up to the age of ten she took no delight in reading, till somebody gave her an abridgment of Robinson Crusoe; this she read with avidity and delight, and from thenceforth she was a student of many books.

About this period she was sent to school under her cousin and godmother, Miss Jane Wrather. Several of the girls at this establishment had brothers at Westminster School, and, knowing what was done there before the holidays, they obtained permission from their parents and from the schoolmistress to act a play among themselves before the breaking-up at Christmas. The play chosen was "The West Indian," in which the small part of Varland, the lawyer, was assigned to Anna Kempe; in it, however, she proved herself to be the best actor in the company. The love of acting was encouraged by frequent private performances in her father's house; and a friend, Mr. William Dowton, the celebrated comedian, at last made arrangements for her public appearance at the Bath Theatre. The night was fixed for the 27th May, 1815, the character to be Belvidera in "Venice Preserved," and the programmes were printed and publicly distributed. Miss Kempe proceeded to Bath by the coach to fulfil her engagement; the weather, however, was unpropitious; on the journey she caught a severe cold, entirely lost her voice, and on the long-anticipated evening was ill in bed. The opportunity passed, she continued ill for some time, and finally had reluctantly to admit that with weak health and shaken nerves she must give up all thoughts of entering on so laborious a career as the stage.

Years passed by, and in the year 1818, she was married to Charles Alfred Stothard. This artist, a son of Thomas Stothard, R.A., was born in London, 5th July, 1786. As early as 1802 he commenced making drawings from the monuments in the churches at Stamford. The first number of his great work, "The Monumental Effigies of Great Britain" appeared in June, 1811. In 1816, he was deputed by the Society of Antiquaries to make drawings from the tapestry at Bayeux. It was whilst on his route to Bayeux that he made the discovery of the monuments of the kings and queens of England in the ruins of the abbey of Fontevraud. He made three journies to Bayeux, in the last of which he was accompanied by his wife. In 1821 he was in England, collecting materials for continuation numbers of "The Monumental Effigies," and whilst employed in Beer-Ferrers' Church, Devon, on the 28th May, fell from a ladder, and striking his head against a stone monument was killed on the spot. Mrs. Stot-

hard's only child, Blanch Ann Eliza Stothard, was born on the 29th June following, but died after a short life of seven months' duration.

Mrs. Stothard's first literary work was entitled, "Letters written during a tour in Normandy," brought out in 1820. On account of its being illustrated by her husband, it met with great success. Her next undertaking was, in conjunction with her brother, Alfred John Kempe, F.S.A., to continue and complete "The Monumental Effigies" left unfinished by her husband, and then to write an account of her late talented partner under the title of "Memoirs of the late Charles Alfred Stothard."

Within a period of two years she married the Rev. Edward Atkyns Bray; he was of Trinity College, Cambridge, B.D. 1822; was appointed Vicar of Tavistock in 1811, which appointment he held until his decease, 16th July, 1857, aged 78. He was the author of Poems, 1799; Idylls, 1801; Funeral Ode on Lord Nelson, 1801; Sermons selected from the Works of the most Eminent Divines, 1818; Discourses adapted to the Pulpit from Tracts of Eminent Divines, 1821; and a Sermon, 1833. Mr. Bray was a stout old-fashioned tory, a kind of man one does not expect to find in a town belonging to the family of Russell. It was very pardonable in Mrs. Bray to believe that in her husband the Church possessed one of her most powerful preachers; but as he not unfrequently gave political sermons that were distasteful to the majority of his hearers, or else preached learned discourses which they did not understand, some difference of opinion may exist as to the amount of benefit he conferred on the Church. Many stories are told about the attempts of the rustics to find out what some of Mr. Bray's words meant. "Trismegistus," asked a farmer of his friend as they walked up the street from the church together, "Who is Trismegistus?" "Lord love'e," was the reply, "how should I knoa? why, there's no end to the 'postles."

Mrs. Bray's first work of fiction was "De Foix; or, Sketches of the Manners and Customs of the Fourteenth Century. An historical romance," 1826; and from this time onwards her appearances before the public were very frequent. On the publication of her novel, "The Talba; or, Moors of Portugal," in 1830, she introduced herself to Robert Southey; he afterwards visited her at Tavistock, and was in literary communication with her to the date of his death, after which time his widow, Caroline, corresponded with Mrs. Bray. In the same year in which her second husband died she removed to London after a residence of thirty-six years at Tavistock. The serenity of her declining years was disturbed by the public report that when at Bayeux in 1816 she had stolen and taken away a small piece of the tapestry. The small piece in question having come into the hands of the authorities at the South Kensington Museum was by them restored to the Custodian of the Tapestry at Bayeux. The custodian it appears was accustomed to inform visitors that "Madame confessed the theft on her death bed." A letter from her nephew, Mr. Charles Kempe, to *The Times* produced a leading article, and it was proved that Mrs. Bray could not possibly have taken away the fragment, as at the time it was stated to have been stolen she had never seen Normandy. She died at her residence, 40, Brompton Crescent, London, Sunday, 21st January, 1883. She believed profoundly in herself and her works, and made no secret of it; but there was a childlike openness and sweetness in her self-confidence which attracted instead of repelling. The autobiography of Mrs. Bray recently published does not contain all the information about this authoress which one had a right to expect; it is very discursive, and what is generally known as "light reading." The editor, Mr. John A. Kempe, has taken very little trouble about the book; there is neither table of

contents nor index. No list of Mrs. Bray's works is given, nor is any attempt made to supply deficiencies in dates, &c., left by the deceased lady. Even the date of birth on the title-page differs from that given in the body of the book. A caution must be added as to the name of this authoress: nearly all her works are said on the title-pages to be by "Mrs. Bray," but there is also another lady who writes under the same appellation, namely Emily O. Bray, who was born at Buryhill, Dorking, in 1847, and is the wife of Mr. Reginald M. Bray. I believe all the following works are by E. O. Bray:—Our duty to animals, 1871; Month at the sea-side, a sequel to Willie and Mary, 1872; Madge, a tale, 1873; Petite; or, the story of a child's life, 1873; History of Jack-a-Nory and his brother, a Cornish story, 1876; Paul Bradley, a village tale, 1876; Ten of them; or, the child of Danehurst, 1877; We four, a story, 1881. The books in the following list being all modern and easily procurable, it has not been thought necessary to give the collations. Some of Mrs. A. E. Bray's works are said to have been translated into German.

Annexed is a bibliography of her own works and of those she edited.

Letters written during a Tour in Normandy, Brittany and other parts of France, in 1818, *with numerous illustrations after the drawings of Charles A. Stothard, F.S.A.* By Mrs. Charles Stothard. *Lond. Longmans, Nov.* 1820, 4to, £2. 12*s.* 6*d.*

The Monumental Effigies of Great Britain, 147 *etchings by Charles A. Stothard*, with historical descriptions and introduction by A. J. Kempe (his brother-in-law). *Lond.* 1817-32, fo. £19. *large paper*, £28. Mrs. Stothard assisted her brother in the completion of this work.

Memoirs, including original journals, letters, papers and antiquarian tracts of the late Charles Alfred Stothard, with connective notes of his life, and some account of a journey to the Netherlands. By Mrs. Charles Stothard. *Lond. Longmans*, 1823, 8vo, 15*s.*

De Foix; or, Sketches of the Manners and Customs of the Fourteenth Century, an historical romance. *Lond. Smith and Elder*, 1826, 3 vols. 8vo, £1. 7*s.* Price afterwards reduced to 12*s.*—New and revised edition. *Lond. Chapman and Hall*, 1884, 8vo. 3*s.* 6*d.*

The White Hoods, an historical romance. *Lond. Longmans, 11th Feb.* 1828, 3 vols. 8vo, £1. 11*s.* 6*d.* The Remainders passed to Smith and Elder, who reduced the price to 12*s.*—New and revised edition. *Lond. Chapman and Hall*, 1884, 8vo, 3*s.* 6*d.*

The Protestant, a tale of the reign of Queen Mary. By the author of De Foix. *Lond. R. Colburn, Nov.* 1828, 3 vols. 8vo, £1. 11*s.* 6*d.*—New and revised edition. *London, Chapman and Hall*, 1884, 8vo, 3*s.* 6*d.*

Fitz of Fitzford, a legend of Devon. *Lond. Smith and Elder, Feb.* 1830, 3 vols. 8vo, £1. 7*s.* afterwards reduced to 12*s.*—New and revised edition. *Lond. Chapman and Hall*, 1884, 8vo, 3*s.* 6*d.*

The Talba; or, Moor of Portugal, a romance. *Lond. Longmans, Dec.* 1830, 3 vols. 8vo, £1. 7*s.* The Remainder passed to Smith and Elder, who reduced the price to 12*s.*—New and revised edition. *Lond. Chapman and Hall*, 1884, 8vo, 3*s.* 6*d.*

Fables and other Pieces in Verse by Mary Maria Colling, with some account of the Author, in Letters to Robert Southey, Esq., Poet Laureate. *Lond. Longmans*, 1831, 12mo. Published by subscription.

Trials of Domestic Life. *Lond. R. Colburn*, 1834, 3 vols. 8vo, £1. 11*s.* 6*d.*—Another edition. *Lond.* 1848, 3 vols. 12mo.

Warleigh; or, the Fatal Oak, a legend of Devon. *Lond. Longmans, Nov.* 1834, 3 vols. 8vo, £1. 11*s.* 6*d.* This title is frequently found misprinted as Warleigh; or, the Fatal Oath.—New and revised edition. *Lond. Chapman and Hall*, 1884, 8vo, 3*s.* 6*d.*

The Borders of the Tamar and Tavy. *Lond. John Murray, Feb.* 1836, 3 vols. 8vo, £1. 4*s.* Mr. Bohn purchased the remainder copies, and gave the work a new title-page as follows:

Traditions, Legends, Superstitions and Sketches, of Devonshire, on the Borders of the Tamar and Tavy, in a Series of Letters from Mrs. Bray to Robert Southey, Esq. *London, Bohn*, 1838, 3 vols. 8vo.

The Borders of the Tamar and Tavy, their Natural History, &c. A new edition. *London, W. Kent and Co.*, Plymouth, printed 1879, 2 vols. 8vo. £1. 1*s*.

Trelawney of Trelawne ; or, the Prophecy, a legend of Cornwall. *Lond. Longmans, 5th Dec.* 1837, 3 vols. 8vo, £1. 11*s*. 6*d*.—Second edition, 1845, 8vo.

Trials of the Heart. *Lond.* 1839, 3 vols. 12mo.

The Mountains and Lakes of Switzerland, with descriptive Sketches of other parts of the Continent. *Lond. Longmans*, 1841, 3 vols. 12mo, £1. 11*s*. 6*d*.

Henry de Pomery ; or, the Eve of St. John, a legend of Cornwall and Devon. *London, R. Bentley*, 1842, 3 vols. 8vo, £1. 8*s*. 6*d*.—A new edition, revised and corrected by the Author (with The White Rose, a domestic tale). *Lond. Longmans*, 1846, 1 vol. 8vo.

Courtenay of Walreddon, a romance of the West. *Lond. R. Bentley*, 1844, 3 vols. 8vo.

The Novels and Romances of A. E. Bray. *Lond. Longmans*, 1845-46, 10 vols. 8vo, £3.

The Father's Curse, and The Daughter's Sacrifice. Two tales. *Lond.* 1848, 8vo.

The Life of Thomas Stothard, R.A., with personal reminiscences by Mrs. Bray. *London*, 1851, 4to.

Novels and Romances by A. E. Bray. *Lond. Longmans*, 1853, 10 vols. 12mo, 6*s*. each. Passed to Thomas Tegg, who reduced the price to 1*s*. 6*d*. per vol.

A Peep at the Pixies or Legends of the West, *with illustrations by H. K. Browne*, 3*s*. 6*d*.; *coloured*, 4*s*. 6*d*. *Lond. Grant and Griffith*, 1854.

Handel : his Life, Personal and Professional, with Thoughts on Sacred Music. By Mrs. Bray. *Lond. Ward and Co.*, 1857, 8vo, 2*s*.

Poetical Remains of the late Rev. E. A. Bray ; selected and edited, with a Memoir of the Author by Mrs. Bray. *Lond. Longmans*, 1859, 2 vols. 8vo, 12*s*.

A Selection from the Sermons, General and Occasional, of the Rev. E. A. Bray. *London, Rivingtons*, 1860, 2 vols. 8vo, 14*s*.

Physiology for Schools in 27 Lessons. *Lond. Longmans*. Second edition, 1860, 12mo, 1*s*.; Third edition, 1870, 12mo, 1*s*.

The good St. Louis and his times. *Lond. Griffith and Farran*, 1870, 8vo, 7*s*. 6*d*.

The Revolt of the Protestants of the Cevennes, with some Account of the Huguenots in the Seventeenth Century. *Lond. John Murray*, 1870, 8vo, 10*s*. 6*d*.

Hartland Forest, a legend of North Devon. *Lond. Longmans*, 1871, 8vo, 4*s*. 6*d*.

Joan of Arc and the times of Charles the Seventh, King of France. *Lond. Griffith and Farran*, 1874, 8vo, 7*s*. 6*d*.

Roseteague; or, the Heir of Treville Crewse. *Lond. Chapman and Hall*, 1874, 2 vols. 8vo, £1. 1*s*.

Silver Linings; or Light and Shade. *Lond. Griffith and Farran*, 1880, 8vo, 7*s*. 6*d*.; reduced Nov. 1883, to 3*s*. 6*d*.

Autobiography of Anna Eliza Bray (born 1789 *sic*, died 1883), edited by John A. Kempe. *Lond. Chapman and Hall, Feb.* 1884, 8vo, 10*s*. 6*d*. *with a portrait*

Reminiscences of Thomas Stothard, R.A. *Gentleman's Magazine*, N.S. vol. ii, 321-323 (1834).

Cotele and the Edgcumbes of the Olden Time. *ib.*, xl. 351-357, 444-50 (1853).

The Library Chronicle.

The LIBRARY CHRONICLE *is issued on the 15th of the month, and communications, books for review, etc., intended for the forthcoming number should be addressed, not later than the 10th of the month, to the Hon. Editor,* ERNEST C. THOMAS, *care of Messrs. J. Davy & Sons, 137, Long Acre, W.C.*

The attention of librarians and library committees, of publishers and booksellers, is called to the advantages of the CHRONICLE (*which represents at least 250 libraries*) *as an advertising medium. Advertisements of Library Vacancies, and of Books Wanted, or Duplicates for Sale or Exchange by Libraries are inserted at low rates.*

Members of the Library Association whose subscription for the current year has been paid are entitled to receive the CHRONICLE.

Remittances, subscriptions, and advertisements should be sent to Mr. E. M. BORRAJO, *care of the Publishers.*

The Library Association cannot be responsible for the views expressed by the contributors to the CHRONICLE.

The Library Association.

At the Meeting of the Council held on August 1, the following Resolution was passed: That this Meeting of the Council of the Library Association desire to express their sense of the loss the Association has sustained in the death of their eminent member the late Rector of Lincoln College, Oxford.

A circular has been issued with a preliminary announcement of the arrangements for the Dublin Meeting on September 30th and following days.

Library Echoes.

Our last number will have prepared our readers for the announcement that the American International Conference is definitely postponed for the present. Just after we had gone to press with our last issue we received a cable message from Mr. Bowker to this effect.

Since then we have seen the circular issued by the Secretary of the American Library Association, according to which "it has been found that the dates announced for the Toronto Meeting, Sept. 3-7, 1884, are impracticable, a number of leading members having other engagements that will not allow their attendance." Mr. Dewey adds that as "No better date is available, it seems wisest to omit this fall's meeting. . . . . Our friends abroad have been consulted before announcing this decision . . . and it is expected that the postponement will result in a much larger meeting next year."

We are glad to learn from a private letter that Mr. Dewey has some idea of "running over" to the Dublin Meeting, and is trying to induce Mr. Bowker to come with him. We hope to see them both.

The offers of papers that have already been received for the Dublin Meeting promise an unusually interesting programme. Any further offer of papers should be made at once. Though a more formal announcement on the subject must be deferred until our next number, we have no reason to doubt that in other respects the Meeting will be a great success.

The Library Association has lost one of its most distinguished ornaments in the death of the learned Rector of Lincoln College. Mr. Pattison was a member of the London Conference in 1877, and one of the original members of the Library Association. For some time he was one of our Vice-Presidents, and has always taken considerable interest in our work.

As one of the Peterborough papers observes, "The powers of darkness have prevailed for the time, and Peterborough is to do without a Free Library and News Room." The promoters of the movement however, are not to be discouraged by one failure, and we have little doubt that they will ultimately have their way.

Though it is certainly an innovation to criticize the fly-leaves of a magazine, we

have no objection to criticism, and do not shrink from expressing our own opinions, or from hearing the opinions of others. But the critic has no right to mis-state facts. The Editor of the *Bibliographer* in noticing the "Contents of Leading Periodicals" (not *the* Leading Periodicals, as he makes us say!) observes that it "is *chiefly* made up of the ordinary sixpenny monthlies." Now of the 15 periodicals whose contents we have set out so far, only *four* are sixpennies, and four is far from being a majority of 15. Either therefore the Editor of the *Bibliographer* is stating that which he knows to be untrue, or (like the crows in the story) he cannot count beyond four! As figures have never been the strong point of the *Bibliographer*, we give it the benefit of the more charitable supposition.

EDITOR.

Library Notes and News.

HOME.

GLASGOW.—The *North British Daily Mail* of July 22nd, under the title "Glasgow and Free Libraries: the Question for the Ratepayers," prints a very long article containing an elaborate statement of the arguments in favor of the adoption of the Acts.

LEEK.—Mr. Hall has already taken charge of the Nicholson Institute, as Librarian and Curator. The Institute includes a Library, Museum, Art Gallery and School of Art. The building, which, as our readers are aware, has been presented to the town by Mr. Joshua Nicholson, is reported to be a very fine one, and excellently adapted for its purpose. The contract, exclusive of cost of site, arrangements for heating and ventilation, and fittings, was £8,683.

LONDON: BRITISH MUSEUM.—The *Pall Mall Gazette* of August 1 contains an account of an interview with Mr. Bond, under the heading of "A Gap in the British Museum." The principal librarian regrets the removal of the Natural History collections which have always been the most popular, and suggests the formation of a smaller and representative museum to fill the gap. "How can you expect," Mr. Bond asks, "poor people from the East End to go all the way to South Kensington? Here in Bloomsbury the average number of daily visitors to the collections was about 2,500; at South Kensington it is, I believe, 1,000." Mr. Bond also remarked "We do not get so many of the working men as I should like; we shall never do that until we are allowed to open on Sundays. Speaking for myself, I should like to see Sunday opening, and so I believe would most of our officers here; but of course until Parliament sanctions such a step the museum cannot be opened."

LONDON: CHELSEA.—The *West Middlesex Advertiser* of August 2 calls attention to the value of the work done by the Westminster Free Public Library, and regrets that Chelsea "still remains unprovided with a free public library."

LONDON: INTERNATIONAL HEALTH EXHIBITION. — The Library and Reading Room which have lately been opened in connexion with the Exhibition, contain nearly 8,000 volumes. In the Health Division a large collection has been made of official reports, central and local, bearing on the administration of sanitary laws at home and abroad. A special feature in this department has been made of guide books and medical and popular treatises and photographs relating to the principal English and Foreign Health Resorts. The Medical Works on Health are most complete, and such subjects as Food, Dress, Dwelling House, Ambulance, &c., are extensively represented. We believe that this is the largest "Health" Library in existence. The Educational Division contains English and Foreign Works used in the principal scholastic establishments throughout Europe. Mr. Carl A. Thimm, a member of our Association, has, under the direction of the Library Sub-Committee, arranged, classified and catalogued the Library in a wonderfully short space of time.

NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE. — The New Public Library Buildings, and more particularly the Reference Library, are to be in-

augurated by T. R. H. the Prince and Princess of Wales, on the 20th of this month.

PETERBOROUGH.—The movement in favour of the adoption of the Libraries Acts has unfortunately not met with the success that seemed to be promised by the character of the public meetings which have been held to consider the question. The Dean of Peterborough presided at a Meeting in favour of the Acts, and Mr. Alderman Stevenson of Leicester and Mr. J. P. Briscoe of Nottingham attended to give information as to the working of the Acts, and Mr. Alderman Thompson of Peterborough, offered to lend a house for twelve months until a library building was provided. The resolution in favour of adopting the Acts was carried with only three dissentients. The opinion of the ratepayers was taken by voting papers, and the result announced on July 11th. The votes were: for adoption of the Acts, 1115; against, 1632; majority against, 517. The number of papers returned blank was 551, so that "these abstentionists lost the cause." The members of the Committee for the promotion of the Public Library have since held a Meeting, and formed themselves into an Association to continue the movement, with Mr. Alderman Percival as Chairman, and Mr. G. C. Hill as Hon. Secretary.

FOREIGN.

Europe.

BAMBERG.—Dr. Friedrich Leitschuh, the librarian of the Royal Library at Bamberg is contributing an account of the Art Collection of the Library to the *Allgemeine Zeitung*. The first article appeared on 25th June.

BERLIN.—Advantage has been taken of the Emperor's absence from Berlin to make the necessary changes preparatory to the removal of the Royal Library into its new premises (see *ante*, p. 25). A strong desire is expressed that the vacancy in the librarianship caused by the death of Prof. Lepsius, may be filled by the appointment of a working librarian, and not merely a distinguished scholar. The collection is said to number over 800,000 printed volumes.

FRANKFURT-AM-MAIN: STADTBIBLIOTHEK.—Dr. Ernst Kelchner, who has already described in special catalogues some of the treasures of the Library, has published a careful bibliographical account of the Luther books in the Library dating from 1518-46.

PARIS.—An announcement appears in a contemporary that the service of "Archives départementales, communales et hospitalières" has been "separated from the office of Minister of Public Instruction and the Fine Arts." What has really happened is that this service has been transferred from the Ministry of the Interior and *annexed* to that of Public Instruction, to which, as our readers are aware, the service of the National Archives was already attached.

PARIS: LIBRARY EXAMINATION.—As a result of the examination held in May last (see p. 26 *ante*) the Minister of Public Instruction has awarded certificates of competency to six candidates, whose names are given in the July number of *Le Livre*. Three of the successful candidates are already engaged in University Libraries.

PARIS: SOCIÉTÉ FRANKLIN.—The May issue of the *Bulletin de la Société Franklin* (*Journal des Bibliothèques Populaires*) contains the Report presented to the Annual Meeting, held on April 29th, by M. André Michel. The books distributed to libraries during the year were of the value of 49,902 fr. The Society is making a special effort to provide libraries for Military Hospitals, and a letter was read from the Minister of War, thanking the Society. A number of prizes were awarded to persons who had rendered special services in the promotion of popular libraries.

United States.

BOSTON.—Messrs. Cupples, Upham & Co. of Boston announce a forthcoming work on "The Libraries of Boston," in which will be included accounts of over one hundred of the principal private libraries. It is proposed to issue it only to subscribers.

NEW YORK: ASTOR LIBRARY.—Mr. John Jacob Astor has recently presented

to the Library a valuable gift numbering only ten articles, which however are said to have cost over £6000. They are: (1) The Complutensian Polyglot; (2) Fust and Schoeffer's Latin Bible of 1462, on vellum; (3) A Vulgate from the Grolier Collection; (4) Tyndale's Pentateuch of 1530 (imperfect); (5) Coverdale's Bible of 1535 (also imperfect); (6) Eliot's Indian Bible, first edition with the rare English Title and Dedication; (7) Fust and Schoeffer's Durandus, 1459; (8) Wiclif's N.T., MS. on vellum, Duke Humphrey's copy; (9) an illuminated Sarum Missal; and (10) an illuminated Evangelistarium on vellum, of the 9th century.

WASHINGTON. — *Harper's Weekly* for June 21st contains an interesting contribution to the discussion as to the proposed new building for "Our National Library," by an enthusiastic writer who predicts that from the enlargement of the Library "American literature must receive a new impulse, and American thought be enlarged and strengthened. It seems time that we should no longer depend upon Europe for our books or our ideas. We have lived too long in a mental vassalage. An American library will help to set us free."

We have received a specimen page of the proposed catalogue of the Dumbarton Free Public Library. It is on the Dictionary plan, which is becoming so deservedly popular with librarians.

In an article on "La Bibliothèque populaire," in the *République Française* of 3rd August, the writer states that the libraries established on the voluntary system, supplemented by state aid, appear to work more successfully in rural districts than those which depend exclusively upon the state.

The July number of *Le Livre* contains an interesting article on "Les Bibliothèques des Prisons de la Seine," by Gustave Fustier. These libraries date from 1850, and now the nine establishments have 2800 fr. per annum allotted for their maintenance. The largest of the libraries are at the Mazas prison, where there are nearly 6000 volumes, and at La Santé, which has 5000 volumes—part of which however are for the use of the medical staff. At the Mazas establishment one of the prisoners performs the duties of librarian, and it appears that a suitable librarian is not easily found. Librarians do not generally go to prison.

The August *Bibliographer* states that the Halle University Library "contains 40,000 vols." and "has the most complete collection of periodicals, German and Foreign." Even to one who knows nothing of German University Libraries, such a statement must appear transparently absurd. After allowing for so many periodicals, what can there be left to represent the range of subjects studied in a German University? If the Editor had consulted the *Encyclopædia Britannica*, he would have found that the Halle University Library three years ago numbered not 40,000, but 220,000 vols.! The fact is that the *Bibliographer* has confounded the Halle *Akademie* with the University, the speciality of the former being naturally "periodische Schriften aus dem Gebiete der Naturwissenschaften."

The July number of Dr. Petzholdt's *Anzeiger* has an article on the recent discussions in the Prussian Parliament on the Royal Library at Berlin.

Professor Dziatzko contributes to the July number of the *Centralblatt für Bibliothekswesen* an excellent article on the Centralization of the Catalogues of German Libraries. Instead of collecting manuscript copies of all the catalogues at Berlin—as proposed by Prof. von. Treitschke—Prof. Dziatzko proposes that a general alphabetical catalogue should be printed—a Thesaurus Germaniæ Typographicus, and suggests that by a system of signs, the existence of the books in each of the larger libraries might be easily indicated without a great expenditure of space. The proposal is one which has been made here in connexion with the General Catalogue of English Literature, and which has not yet received the attention it deserves.

Library Catalogues and Reports.

Catalogue of Books in the Library of the British Museum, printed in England, Scotland and Ireland, and of books in English printed abroad, to the year 1640. Printed by order of the trustees. London, 1884. 8vo., 3 vols. pp. 1-604, 605-1272, 1273-1787. cl., price 30s.

This long-looked for catalogue has within the last few days been issued and will be received with pleasure by all who are interested in early literature. It is provided with "a very full index of subjects" and "an ample index of the Printers, Booksellers and Stationers here catalogued." We hope to give a detailed notice of it in our next issue.

International Health Exhibition Library (Royal Albert Hall) Catalogue. Division I. Health. Division II. Education. London: Clowes & Sons, Limited, 8vo. pp. 138. Price 1s.

A classified Catalogue printed in double columns and stated to be 'under revision.' It is supplemented by a List of Contributors, the collection consisting entirely of voluntary contributions. (See *ante*, p. 131.)

Ashton-under-Lyne Corporation Free Library Catalogue, 1883. Ashton-under-Lyne, 8vo. pp. 215.

The Library was opened on March 25th, 1882, and this catalogue includes over 6,000 volumes. It is a classed catalogue upon Mr. Dewey's system and his arrangement of divisions and subdivisions is prefixed to it. Then follows an alphabetical List of authors, editors or translators.

British Museum. An Account of the Income and Expenditure of the British Museum (Special Trust Funds) for the year ended 31st March, 1884; Number of Persons admitted to visit the Museum . . . . together with a statement of the progress made in the arrangement and description of the collections and an account of objects added to them in the year 1883. Ordered by the House of Commons *to be printed*, 25 June, 1884. Fol. pp. 60. Price 7½d.

See *ante*, p. 124.

Borough of Southport. Atkinson Free Library. Ninth Annual Report, 1883-84. Southport. 8vo, pp. 10.

947 volumes have been added during the year, and the stock now stands at 13,005. The issues from the lending department were 73,670—a decrease of 4,422; from the reference department, 34,015—an increase of 665. There was a decrease of 17,817 in the attendance in the reading and news rooms, but it is noted that the library was open 12 days less than the previous year, owing to the visit of the British Association. At the Churchtown Branch there was an increase of 1,104 borrowers.

Borough of Tynemouth. The Fourteenth Annual Report of the Committee of the . . . Free Public Library to the Town Council, for the year ending 31st December, 1883. North Shields, 1884. 8vo, pp. 16.

The Committee report the continued success of the Institution. The issues during the year were 101,982—an increase of 9,360; and 10,322 volumes were consulted in the reference library. The number of volumes in the library is 21,002, of which 969 were added last year. 15 volumes are reported missing. The total income was £828 10s. 1d., and the financial year opened with a balance of £297 11s. 8d. in hand.

Westminster. United Parishes of St. Margaret and St. John the Evangelist. Twenty-seventh Annual Report and Statement of Receipts and Expenditure of the Commissioners of the Free Public Libraries, 1883-84 . . . . [London], 1884. 8vo. pp. 16 + 3.

The total issues for the year were 112,816, an increase of 16,089. Of these issues 64,551 were from the Chief Lending Library and 38,564 from the Reference Library; 7,748 and 1,953 from the corresponding departments at the Knightsbridge branch. The daily average attendance in the Reading Rooms at the Chief Library was 1,200. The Library is now open all day, and the issues of books for use in the Reading Rooms has doubled. Among other improvements two rooms have been set apart for ratepayers and ladies respectively. The rate produced £1,425., and the year closed with a balance in hand of £365. 15s. 9d.

Record of Bibliography and Library Literature.

Titles of the first books from the earliest presses, established in different cities, towns and monasteries in Europe before the end of the Fifteenth Century with brief notes upon their printers. Illustrated with reproductions of early types and first engravings of the printing press. By Rush C. Hawkins. New York: T. W. Bouton; London: B. Quaritch, 1884. 4to. pp. xxxi., 143. Price £2. 12s. 6d.

The 25 photo-lithographs of the first productions of early presses lend considerable value to this book, of which only 300 copies are printed. For the present we must be content to refer to the exhaustive review of this work by Dr. J. H. Hessels in the *Academy* of July 26.

A Modern Proteus or a List of Books published under more than one title. By James Lyman Whitney. New York: F. Leypoldt, Publisher, 1884. 16mo. pp. 106. Price 75 cents.

An extremely neat reprint of the Paper read at the Boston Conference last year, by Mr. J. L. Whitney of the Boston Public Library. Mr. Whitney has made additions to the list as printed in the Library Journal, so that it now includes over 900 titles. It is likely to be of considerable service to librarians and book-buyers in protecting them against the issues of the same book under different titles, often a mere booksellers' trick and always a source of trouble and perplexity to cataloguers and readers.

Bibliography of the Bacon-Shakspeare Controversy with Notes and Extracts. By W. H. Wyman. Cincinnati; Peter G. Thomson, 1884, large 8vo, pp. 124.

In 1882, Mr. Wyman printed privately a bibliography of this controversy extending to 63 titles. The number of titles in that now issued is 255. Even now however it can hardly claim to be complete and Mr. Wyman may certainly improve upon the present publication.

Library of Harvard University. Bibliographical Contributions. Edited by Justin Winsor, Librarian. No. 18. A Bibliography of Ptolemy's Geography, by Justin Winsor, Cambridge, Mass. 1884. Large 8vo. pp. 42.

A republication from the Harvard Bulletin of an annotated list of the original and augmented texts and translations, and of Wytfliets Continuation, with particular reference to the development of early American Cartography; and with an enumeration of copies in American libraries." It is hardly necessary for us to add that it is an excellent piece of work.

A Bibliography of New Guinea. By E. C. Rye, Librarian [of the Royal Geographical Society]. Extracted from the Royal Geographical Society's Supplementary Papers, vol 1, No. 2, 1884. [London, 1884], 8vo, pp. 285-337.

Mr. Rye deserves our best thanks for a very useful and thorough piece of work. It commences with references to the sources for the history of the early discoverers of New Guinea, then follows the bibliography in alphabetical order of authors of works and of papers in periodicals and transactions. Ships' names are given, with cross-references under the chief non-geographical subjects, such as anthropology and ethnology, botany, Dutch claims, Papuans, and zoology. The titles are transcribed in full, with number of pages, etc.

Dictionnaire des ouvrages anonymes et pseudonymes publiés par des religieux de la Compagnie de Jésus depuis sa fondation jusqu'à nos jours par Carlos Sommeroogel. Première partie, A-Q. Paris: Librairie de la Société Bibliographique, 1884. 8vo. pp. iii, 1-171.

Printed in the same size and style as the new editions of Barbier and Quérard. It is a necessary supplement to the admirable *Bibliothèque des Ecrivains de la Compagnie de Jésus* of De Backer. The titles are given in full with a few notes. The method of arrangement is similar to that of Barbier.

A curious contribution to library literature lies before us in the shape of a separate report from the shorthand notes of the Judgment on appeal in the case of Peacock *v.* Sinclair, to which we have already referred as an action between the Liverpool Library and the Liverpool Lyceum (Liverpool, 1884, 8vo, pp. 29).

We have received a pamphlet containing some reprinted letters to the *Isle of Wight Advertiser*, on "What England owes to the Corporation of London. . . . No. 1.: Schools and Libraries." (8vo. pp. 14). They are also described as "Letters of a Hampshire Conservative," and the authorship it is not difficult to guess.

Nos. 197-8 of Trübner's Record are devoted entirely to a reprint of some of the obituary notices of the late Mr. Trübner, to which an excellent photograph is added.

The Publishers' Circular for July 15, contains an engraving of a bookworm, one of three recently found at Messrs. Sotheran's in the Strand.

"Nineteen Centuries of Drink in England: A History," by Dr. Richard Valpy Trench, contains "a contribution to the bibliography of the subject." It is a mere list of abbreviated titles with dates. Mr. Axel Gustafson's "Foundation of Death," contains a much more valuable bibliography extending to over 1,200 titles.

To Bancroft's History of California is added what the author describes as "practically a complete catalogue of all existing material pertaining to California down to the epoch of the discovery of gold, and of all historical material to a later period." The list contains over 4,000 titles.

M. Claudin has reprinted from *Le Livre* his paper entitled "Un Nouveau Document sur Gutenberg," which has attracted so much attention.

We learn from Dr. Petzholdt's *Anzeiger* that Dr. Gustav Becker, Custos of the Bonn University Library, is about to publish a collection of early library catalogues. The work will fall into two parts: I. Catalogi saeculo XIII. vetustiores. II. Catalogus Catalogorum posterioris aetatis.

Correspondence.

Library Reports and Post-Card Notices.

Public Free Library, Guildhall, Cambridge, *16th July*, 1884.

B. Y. is unduly exercised about post-card notices. The evils he complains of do not exist if the plan is carried out properly. If a card is posted one day the borrower to whom it is sent is compelled to apply the next day for the book required. Until the plan was adopted complaints were frequent, but now we have none, because those who want a particular book very much never object to pay for a post-card.

J. Pink, *Librarian.*

Library Forms and Accounts.

Hawick Public Library, *5th July*, 1884.

I have no doubt the librarians of our more prominent public libraries are often applied to for a description of their working arrangements and forms, and I believe that many special improvements sometimes occur to individual members which would materially assist others. I would therefore suggest that each librarian be asked to give an outline of his system of issuing and recording the issue of books together with the various printed forms used. Of course a great number would be identical, but in other cases modifications will have been adopted as the result of experience, and if the various systems were classified and the results given it would be of great practical use and enable everyone to benefit by the conjoint experience of his neighbours.

D. Watson, *Secretary.*

Books Received.

We have received Part XXIII. of *Gloucestershire Notes and Queries* for July, 1884, edited by the Rev. Beaver H. Blacker, M.A.; and Part I of the second volume of the New Series of the *Transactions of the Royal Historical Society.*

We have also received an interesting reprint of "Mr. William Shakespeare's Tragedie of Hamlet," from the 1623 folio, reprinted for William Ludlow, 1884. The publishers (Simpkin, Marshall & Co.) announce that they purpose issuing this reprint in monthly parts, each containing a play, until the work is completed. The printing exhibits the usual excellence of the Dryden Press (Messrs. J. Davy & Sons).

Printed and published for the Library Association of the United Kingdom by J. Davy & Sons, *at the Dryden Press*, 137, *Long Acre, London. Annual Subscription, post free*, 6*s.*

The Library Chronicle.

THE ROYAL VISIT TO NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE: OPENING OF THE PUBLIC LIBRARIES.

By Sir James Picton, J. D. Mullins, and the Editor.

THE visit of the Prince and Princess of Wales to the capital of Northern Industry was in every way memorable. The sturdy colliers and keelmen of the Tyne are noted for earnestness in all that they undertake, and the demonstrations on the occasion were such as to put to the blush what has been usually seen of a similar kind in the southern part of the kingdom. The procession of gaily decorated steamers down the river to open the new dock at Tynemouth passed for eight miles through serried crowds of thousands upon thousands of spectators, whose cheers made the welkin ring, while bands of music afloat and ashore, ringing of bells, discharges of cannon, a profusion of bunting of every variegated hue, flags of all nations, and decorations of all kinds, made up a *tout ensemble* in which description fails.

This, however, is by the way. Our business is with the opening of the Public Library, and the Museum of Natural History, which formed an important part of the first day's proceedings. The procession through the city culminated in the ceremony of the Prince and Princess's visit formally to declare them open, which was done with the usual grace and kindliness which distinguish the illustrious visitors. Newcastle has always been distinguished by a considerable amount of culture and literary taste. The nature of its manufacturing industry requires intelligence and educated skill in its operatives. The fame of Thomas Bewick is enough in itself to confer lustre on any locality. George Stephenson and Sir William Armstrong have stamped their names indelibly on the city of their labours and triumphs, and other worthies have contributed their share to the reputation of "Canny Newcastle."

A Museum of Antiquities had existed for some years in the old Norman Castle, and a Museum of Natural History in Westgate Road, but something of a more extensive character was required, and has now been supplied. The nucleus has been formed, and will, no doubt, go on rapidly increasing by public encouragement.

The Public Library has commenced under very favourable auspices. The building in which it is located is handsome and in many respects suited to its purpose, but if the voice of criticism is allowed to speak, one or two hints might be thrown out.

The form of the library room—long and narrow—is not the best adapted for arrangement. It is also encumbered in the middle by architectural features, which would have been as well omitted. The best arranged libraries in the kingdom are those based upon plain walls, square or circular in plan, giving free scope for the shelves and cases with recesses and projections according to the requirements from time to time. The reference library appears already filled. Future additions will therefore require the construction of galleries, which involve considerable labour in working.

These remarks are not penned in any captious spirit. The institution is a noble one, and under the fostering care of the present intelligent librarian there is no doubt it will take a prominent place in the van of future literary progress.

J. A. P.

THE happy and reasonable innovation made at Birmingham in inviting to the opening of the Library the persons most likely to be interested in, and having the fullest knowledge of Libraries, has been handsomely followed by Newcastle, the Chairman of the Public Libraries Committee—who is also Mayor of the City—inviting Sir James Picton, for many years Chairman of the Free Libraries Committee at Liverpool, Mr. E. C. Thomas, Hon. Sec. of the Library Association, and two practical Librarians of some experience, viz.: Dr. Bond of the British Museum, and Mr. J. D. Mullins of the Birmingham Free Libraries. Dr. Bond was unable to be present, but the other representatives invited had the pleasure of attending one of the most magnificent royal progresses of this generation.

The City of Newcastle lends itself readily to display; its wide and picturesque streets and lofty stone buildings take kindly to the drapery and decoration, the arches, banners and festoons, which were so lavishly employed, and the effect harmonised with, and was greatly helped by, the fine weather, and the people were as hearty in their pleasant welcome as the Municipality was generous in its preparation.

That the procession should have passed the distance it traversed, and that the immense throngs of people should have assembled and dispersed without an accident is remarkable, and can only be accounted for by the kindliness and care of the populace whose welcome to the Prince of Wales was, as he said, enough indeed to satisfy and more than satisfy the most exacting. The proceedings of the second day, when the progress was down the river for some miles, to open a new dock, was even more remarkable. Though it is said that trade is bad, and the many ships "laid up" mean many men out of employ, every point on each side of the Tyne was crowded with workmen, women and children, singing and shouting a generous welcome.

One cannot help heartily wishing prosperity to Newcastle and its neighbours, for they so thoroughly seem to have laid themselves out to deserve it; everything seems on a scale of greatness and with room for expansion. Newcastle's wide streets, one of the grandest of them built on a slope where once flowed a "burn," its lofty buildings, its great bridges, its strong flowing river, which a little while ago was but a narrow stream, its moor, an open play place stretching away for miles, its Armstrong Park and Jesmond Dene, its "Armstrong" himself its "greatest gun," who gives every now and then a village or two away, or makes a present to some one of a little town, all deeply interest a fair observer.

And its Mayor (H. W. Newton, Esq.) knows how to keep up the traditions of the place in hospitality. Nearly a thousand persons sat down at a luncheon which relieved the labours of the day: all sorts and conditions of men were there. Here the

two Bishops with whom Newcastle is blessed, the Bishop of the Established Church and the Roman Catholic Bishop fraternised and discussed matters (solid and fluid) about which there seemed to be no difference of opinion at all, here a leading local actor, here workmen representing Trade and Friendly Societies,—every class seemed to have been thought of and its representatives invited.

The Princess's presence was as it always is like gentle sunshine.

The Prince was hearty and genial, and made a speech that was just what we all like. Spontaneous and hearty Mr. Cowen, or "Joe," as they lovingly call him here, was rugged and brilliant, speaking with a broad provincial accent, strong sentences that were some of them poetry and all of them literature.

But to the Library, which is really the proper or more suitable subject for this Journal; here, in the midst of a very select company including the Library Representatives, in the course of the day (Wednesday) came the Prince and Princess and their two fine lads, and after examining the Library, the "indicators" and other appurtenances, all which they did on their own account (it was not down for them) they went upstairs to the Reference Library—which it was their special business to open—and in a few pleasant words it was declared free for ever to the world, or such of it as may go to Newcastle.

The Reference Library itself it is a pleasure to examine; though only twenty thousand volumes, it is a right good beginning. Every book there has a right to be there; there is no "rubbish" shot in to fill up; it is a well chosen Library in a cheerful and elegant room; it will be a delight to the men who will use it, and is an honour to the men who have provided it. The News-room, Lending Library and Reference Library are all in one building,—a model of economy,—yet cheerful, well lit, and for the present purpose sufficient, but not for long. Newcastle men will soon want either a building five times as large in some central and prominent position, or branch reading rooms in the various districts of the place.

Mr. Haggerston like the rest of the Librarians is making a new Science, the science of useful Librarianship; he is trying experiments on the result of which will depend the practice of the future. His experiment with the Indicator was as fair and generous as his decision on the result is wise and valuable; the Indicator is good when supplemented by good book-keeping; without this it is dangerous and unreliable, let its inventors say what they will.

Mr. Haggerston is about to make use of an admirable form of the much-talked of Card Catalogue, and the interest and thanks of all will await his report on the result; his is probably the first large Free Library in England in which the Card Catalogue is publicly tried.

He is to be congratulated on his Library, his Committee, and above all on his Chairman, Mr. Councillor Newton, who seems to have given years of his life to the founding and upraising of the Newcastle Public Library. May it flourish!

J. D. M.

THE visit of their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales to open the Public Library at Newcastle may fairly be considered an event of importance in the Library world. It is we believe the first occasion upon which a member of the Royal Family has paid a formal visit to any of the institutions of which so many have now been established under the Libraries Acts, and it seems not unreasonable to hope that this recognition of them may give a much needed stimulus to the movement for their

adoption in some of the towns which have not yet seen fit to adopt them. From another point of view this occasion seems to claim special notice in these pages. The invitations sent by the Mayor and Libraries Committee of Newcastle to Members of the Library Association is a welcome tribute to our growing importance as an association. I hope that I may be permitted to say that its Members were not unworthily represented. It is a matter of regret that the Principal Librarian of the British Museum, who had accepted the Mayor's invitation, was obliged to write that his health and the weather would not allow him to undertake the long journey, and added "It is a great disappointment to me that I am unable to take the part you kindly offered me in the approaching ceremony." Lord Crawford and Balcarres, Dr. Ingram and Mr. Bradshaw were unable to accept the invitation. Mr. Bradshaw wrote—"I should dearly have liked to be with you at your opening ceremony."

It is not uninteresting to note that the last occasion upon which a formal visit was paid to Newcastle by Royalty was in 1822, when the Duke of Sussex visited the town to lay the foundation stone of the new building for the Literary and Philosophical Society. Upon the present occasion the Royal visitors have opened two extensive buildings—a Museum and a Public Library respectively.

Of the former institution we can give but a brief account in this place. It belongs to the Natural History Society of Northumberland, Durham and Newcastle, and is a massive free-stone building. With its fittings it has cost about £40,000. It already possesses fine geological collections, the best collection of British birds in the kingdom, the gift of Mr. John Hancock, and an interesting collection of Bewick's drawings.

The history of the movement for the establishment of the Public Library goes back to 1854, when the late Dr. Newton (father of the present Mayor) moved and carried in the Town Council a motion for a Committee to "consider the propriety and report upon the measures necessary for the promotion of a free library." The enquiry seems to have led to no practical result, and it was reserved for the present Dr. Newton to re-open the question. This he did in 1870, when a Committee of the Council was appointed to consider the matter. The Acts were adopted in 1874. Then there arose difficulties as to the site for a building, which were not solved until 1878, when the Trustees of the Mechanics' Institute agreed to hand over their building and library to the Corporation on condition that the art and science classes should be carried on and the liabilities taken over. On the 13th of September, 1880, the foundation stone of the new building was laid by Mrs. Newton, the present Mayoress, and on the same day the temporary lending department was opened by Mr. Alderman Cowen, M.P. The catalogue of its contents, including some 20,000 volumes, was issued at the same time. This catalogue, though based upon the lines originally, we believe, devised at Manchester and since adopted in so many other libraries, was nevertheless a distinct advance upon anything previously accomplished. Its numerous references to the collectaneous literature contained in the library, its cross-references, and the multiplicity of the information supplied by it, must have involved an immense amount of work. We need not wonder therefore to find the Newcastle *Daily Chronicle* the other day, with pardonable pride in Mr. Haggerston's work, speak of this catalogue as "an embodiment of the genius and enterprise of the Chief Librarian." Since the opening over a million of volumes have been issued with a loss of only sixteen volumes, and the stock has increased to 27,000 volumes. While the architect and builders have been engaged upon the new building, Mr. Haggerston has been employed in bringing

together the books to form the reference library, which, including the Specifications of Patents, opens with a stock of over 23,000 volumes.

The new library building is a handsome Corinthian and Doric structure, with an effective façade of 167 feet in length. Seven steps lead up through a portico into the vestibule. From this the newsroom opens on the right hand, and the lending library on the left. A handsome staircase in front of us leads up to the reference library. This is a fine apartment, 132 feet long by 41 wide. The length of the room is divided by an entablature supported by Corinthian columns, under which are the card catalogue cabinet and the issue and enquiry desks. The room, which is calculated to provide accommodation for 80 readers, is lighted from the top, and the decorations are in soft light tints; the bookcases and counters are of pitch pine, with mahogany tops and dressings.

On the 20th of August the space beneath the entablature was temporarily devoted to a daïs, which their Royal Highnesses, with Prince Albert Victor and Prince George, occupied during the simple opening ceremony. Amongst those present were the Mayor and Mayoress, the Duke of Sutherland, Lord and Lady Hastings, Lord Colville of Culross, Mr. Knollys, C.B., and Miss Knollys, Sir William and Lady Armstrong, Hon. C. R. Spencer, M.P., the Town Clerk, the Members of the Newcastle Public Libraries Committee, the representatives of the Library Association, with several other members, and W. J. Haggerston, Chief Librarian.

The Mayor, addressing the Prince of Wales, said:—I have the honour to invite your Highness to inaugurate the permanent building, and to open the Reference Department of the Newcastle-upon-Tyne Public Library. It is established under the provisions of the Public Libraries Act of 1850, which was promoted in Parliament by the late William Ewart, to whose memory the catalogue of this institution is dedicated. So great has been the success which has attended the establishment of rate-supported libraries in this country that, at the present time, there are more than 100 in active operation in cities and towns with populations varying from 6,000 to half a million inhabitants. The number of volumes contained in these libraries exceeds 1,775,000, while the issue over one year is little short of 11,000,000 volumes. The reference library which your Royal Highnesses have graced to-day with your Royal presence and approval contains 20,000 volumes, many of which are both rare and valuable, while all are useful. The entire stock in the Newcastle library is 50,000 volumes; and during the three and a-half years the provisional lending library has been open to the public 1,000,000 volumes have been issued for home reading, while during the same period only fifteen have been lost. The beneficent influence of this and similar institutions, with their vast circulation, must be great indeed. They will carry onward and upward the work of the public elementary schools, and supply a deficiency in our system of national education. Carlyle says:—"The true university of these days is a collection of books," and there is none better than a public library, with its vast stores of intellectual wealth, within reach of all who desire to enjoy its advantages." He concluded by briefly requesting his Royal Highness to open the reference library.

The Prince of Wales said:—I have great pleasure, ladies and gentlemen, in announcing this reference library to be open.

The Mayor, addressing the Prince and Princess, said:—Would your Royal Highnesses kindly accept catalogues of our library? He then handed to their Royal Highnesses beautifully bound copies of the catalogue, which they graciously accepted.

The Mayor said:—I have one more favour to ask, and that is that you will graciously sign your names in the visitors' book.

The Prince and Princess of Wales and the young Princes granted the request amidst much hearty cheering, and the proceedings were concluded.

In the evening Mr. Mullins and myself had the pleasure of meeting a large number of the Local Members of the Library Association at a meeting convened by Mr. Haggerston as Local Secretary, including Mr. Lyall, Librarian of the Literary and Philosophical Society of Newcastle; Mr. Inkster, Librarian of the South Shields Public Library; Mr. Elliott, Librarian of the Gateshead Public Library; Mr. Watson, Secretary of the Hawick Public Library; Mr. Jordan, Librarian of the Jarrow Mechanics' Institute, and others.

As Sir James Picton and Mr. Mullins have been good enough at my request to set down their impressions of the visit, I need not detain the reader with an account of my own. It will suffice to say that I thoroughly enjoyed my stay in the Tyneside city, and that I wish a long career of steadily growing usefulness and prosperity to the Public Libraries of Newcastle-upon-Tyne. EDITOR.

FREE PUBLIC LIBRARIES AND SUBSCRIPTION LIBRARIES.

BY D. DICKINSON.

AN account of the formation of a Subscription Library in connexion with the West Bromwich Free Library may not be uninteresting to the readers of the LIBRARY CHRONICLE, and may be beneficial in inducing librarians of similar small libraries (where the 1d. rate is inadequate to supply the wants of the public) to adopt the scheme, and thereby add a considerable quantity of literature to their libraries, which would be otherwise unobtainable. The income of our library is not sufficient to allow of the purchase of current literature, and therefore I think we do not come under the class which Mr. J. Potter Briscoe criticised at Oxford in 1878.

We issued a circular in September last, stating the object and suggesting conditions for the carrying-out of the project. To give as little trouble as possible to the receivers of these circulars, a printed and addressed reply was enclosed, so that it needed simply the signature of the subscriber to be added. Twenty-nine only replied favourably. So small a number would not have justified the adoption of the proposed scheme, and therefore these twenty-nine were requested to aid us by soliciting their friends to join the Subscription Library, and as a result the number of intending Subscribers was increased to eighty. A meeting was then called and suggested rules were prepared, copies of which were printed, forwarded to each member and revised at a second meeting called a fortnight later.

The rules are similar to those in use at Bolton, Rochdale and Dundee, though there is one important exception, viz: that books remain in the Subscription Library *two years* before they become the property of the Corporation.

A list of members was printed and copy forwarded to each member, requesting him to put a cross to a number of names corresponding to the number the subscribers at their previous meeting had decided should form a committee. They were also requested by circular to suggest a number of books for the Committee to purchase, and with one or two exceptions the whole of the suggestions were adopted.

A small room over a vestibule is appropriated to this department, which was opened on the 1st of January this year.

All expenses attending the formation and working of the library, not including gas and attendance, are paid by the Subscription Library Committee. Out of £84 received in subscriptions, as yet only £64 10s. has been expended as follows; on stationery, day-books, etc., £10 10s., on books (about 250 works) £54; £5 is being subscribed to Mudie's Library to enable the Committee to supply, when requested, works published at a prohibitory price, such as novels at 31s. 6d. The balance is being reserved for the autumn publications.

The lists of the books already purchased include about 250 recent works, and the Free Public Library will thus receive at the end of 1885, a number of valuable books, which it could not and would not otherwise have obtained.

It may be added that since the formation of the Subscription Library here, the neighbouring town of Wednesbury is considering the advisability of adopting a similar arrangement in connexion with their Free Library.

THE FIRST ENGLISH BOOK ON ANGLING.

By WILLIAM E. A. AXON.

II.—BIBLIOGRAPHY OF TREATYSSE OF FYSSHYNGE.

THE popularity of the book was great. It has been the subject of patient investigations by angling bibliographers, and especially by the recent editors of the "Bibliotheca Piscatoria"—Messrs. Westwood and Satchell. The bulk of these notes were made before the publication of that excellent bibliography. Since its appearance Mr. Satchell has discovered that the opening sentence of the "Treatysse on Fysshynge" is derived from the Comment of Arnold de Villa Nova on the "Schola Salernitana." (*Angler's Note-book, July 15th* 1884.)

The following is a list of the editions:—

1486.—The Bokys of Haukyng and Hunting; and also of cootarmuris. [col.]

Here in thys boke afore are contenyt the bokys of haukyng and huntyng, with other plesuris dyverse as in the boke apperis, and also of cootarmuris, a nobull werke. And here now endyth the boke of blasyng of armys translatyt and compylit togedyr at Seynt Albons the yere from th' incarnacion of oure Lorde Jhu' Crist MCCCCLXXXVI.

folio, black letter.

There are copies at the Grenville collection, the Bodleian Library, the Public Library at Cambridge, and in the collections of the Earl of Pembroke, Earl Spencer, the Marquis of Bute. Some of these are imperfect. It has sold for the following prices:—West, 1773, £13 (*vide* Cat. 130); Ratcliffe, 1776, £9 10s.; Mason, 1799, £75; Roxburgh, £147; White Knights, £84; 1595. Henderson, 1786, 7s. 6d.

1496.—This present boke shewyth the manere of hawkynge and huntynge and also of devysng of cote armours. It sheweth also a good matere belongynge to horses: wyth other commendable treatyses, and ferdermore of the blasyng of armys as hereafter it may appere. Here in this boke afore ben shewed the treatyses perteynynge to hawkynge and huntynge with dyvers playsaunt materes belongynge unto noblesse; and also a ryght noble treatise of cotarmours, as in this present boke it may appere. And here we ende this laste treatyse whyche specyfyeth of blasynge of armys.

Emprynted at Westmistre, by Wynkyn the Worde the yere of thyncarnacõn of our Lorde. MCCCCLXXXXVI.

This has sold as follows:—White Knights, £60 18s.; Ditto, re-sold, wanting Ch. II. and III., £46 4s.; Dent, £13 10s.; Haworth, £39 18s.

It is in this edition that the treatise on fishing first appears. There are copies on vellum in the Pembroke and Grenville collections, and upon paper in the British Museum and Bodleian Library (in the Douce collection).

Without Date (*W. de Worde*).—"The Boke of hawkynge, and huntynge and fysshynge. Colophon: "Here endeth the boke of hawkynge, huntynge and fysshynge and with many other dyver maters."

Imprȳted in Flete Strete at ye Sygne of ye Sonne, by Wȳkyn de Worde. pp. 92. 4to. *n.d.* Black letter. The title is over a well executed wood engraving representing a Hawking Party. The work, illustrated with woodcuts, commences on the reverse of the title.

The only copy known of this edition formerly belonged to Mr. George Daniels and is now in Mr. A. H. Huth's Library. There is another edition with a slightva riation in the colophon.

Without date (*Copland*).—"The Booke of hawkynge, huntynge & fysshyng, with all the properties and medecynes that are necessary to be kept." Colophon: "Thus endeth the booke of Hawkyng Huntyng & fysshyng, with other dyvers matters."

Imprynted at London in Fletestreate at the Signe of the Rose Garlande, by Wylliam Coplande for Rychard Tottell." pp. 96. 4to. *n.d.*

Black letter. This edition is divided into three parts, each part commencing with a wood engraving, over which are the titles of the treatises, as follow: Part 1. The booke of Hawkynge, as given above. This occupies 20 leaves and ends. Part 2. Here beginneth the booke of hunting, whereunto is added the measures of blowyng. This is in verse, and occupies 16 lines. Part 3, the treatise of fishing with an angle.

The boke of hawkynge. This occupies 12 leaves and ends the volume on with the colophon as given above. *Sold at the Inglis Sale for* £12 0*s.* 0*d.*

Another Edition. Divided into three parts and with the titles to each, as before, but each part having the following colophon.

"*Imprynted at London in Saynt Martyns Paryshe in ye Vinetre upon the thre Crane Wharfe by Wyllyam Copland. pp.* 96. 4*to. n.d. At the Haslewood Sale fetched* £8 0*s.* 0*d.*

Another Edition. The arrangement of and the titles to this edition also agree: the imprints and colophons being: Part 1. *Imprynted at London in Paules Churche Yarde, by Robert Toye.* Part 2. *Imprynted at London in Flete Strete at the signe of the Rose Garland by Wyllyam Copland for Robert Toye.* Part 3. *Imprinted at London in Flete Strete at the sygne of the Rose Garland by Wyllyam Copland.* black letter. *pp.* 96. 4*to. n.d.* The sales have been Sotheby May, 1823, £38 17*s.* 0*d.*; Dent, £10 10*s.* 0*d.*

Another Edition. In three parts, with titles, etc. as before, each part having the following colophon (each differing slightly in orthography).

"*Imprynted at London in the Vyentre upon the thre Craned Wharfe by Wyllyam Copland. pp.* 96. 4to. *n.d.*

Another Edition, black letter. This edition also agrees in its arrangement, the colophons being: Part 1. *Imprynted at London in Fletestrete, by Wyllyam Powell.* Part 2. *Imprynted at London in Fletestrete, at the Sygne of the George nexte to Saynt Dunstone's Churche by Wyllyam Powell.* Part 3 same as Part 2. *pp.* 96. 4*to. n.d.*

Sold at the Haworth sale, £7. 5s.

"The booke of Hawkyng, hunting & fyshyng, with other divers matters."

Imprinted at London in Paules Churchyarde, at the Sygne of the Lambe, by Ab: Vele.

Editions by Copland are recorded in 1548, 1551, 1553, 1554, 1561, 1568 and 1569, by Henry Tab (without date), by John Waley in 1546 and 1586, by Powell in 1547, 1550 and 1567. Some of these will probably be cases where more than one bookseller

has had an interest, and in consequence had a separate colophon on the copies taken by him.

Hawking, hunting and Fishing, with the true Measures of Blowing. Newly corrected and amended 1586.

At London: Printed by Edward Allde and are to be sold at the Long Shop adjoyning unto Saint Mildred's Church in the Pultrie 1586. *pp.* 88. 4to.

Black letter. On the title is a wood engraving of a man hawking. The treatise of which commences on A III or rather A II, it being marked III in error. The Booke of Hunting commences on F I, and is followed by a Briefe Treatise of Fishing, with the Arte of Angling. The title page to which having thereon a wood engraving representing a man angling occurs on H., the work ending on the recto of K 4.

The Gentleman's Academie, or the Booke of S. Alban's: containing three most exact and excellent Bookes: the First of Hawking, the second of all the proper terms of Hunting, and the last of Armorie: all compiled by Juliana Barnes in the yere from the incarnation of Christ 1486. And now reduced to a better method by G. M.

London: Printed for Humphrey Lowndes and are to be sold at his shop in Paule's church-yard, 1595. 4to.

This does not include the fishing.

There was an enlarged edition in 1615 also by Gervase Markham, and entitled Country Contentments.

A Jewell for Gentrie. Being an exact Dictionary or true Method, to make any man vnderstand all the Art, Secrets and Worthy Knowledge belonging to Hawking, Hunting, Fowling and Fishing. Together with all the true measures for wending of the Horne. Now newly published and beautified with all the rarest experiments that are knowne or practised at this day.

Printed at London for Iohn Helme and are to be sold at his shop in St. Dunstan's churchyard in Fleet Street, 1614.

The dedication is signed T. S.

The Book containing the Treatises of Hawking; Hunting; Coat Armour; Fishing and Blasing of Arms as printed at Westminster by Wynkyn de Worde, the year of the Incarnation of Our Lorde MCCCCLXXXXVI.

London: Reprinted by Hardinge and Wright, St. John Square for White and Cochrane, Fleet Street, and R. Triphook, St. James's Street. MDCCCX. 8vo.

This is the edition brought out by Haslewood, whose "Literary Researches into the History of the Book of St. Albans" form the introduction.

The Boke of Saint Albans by Dame Juliana Berners, containing treatises on hawking, hunting and cote armour, printed at Saint Albans by the Schoolmaster-printer in 1486.

Reproduced in facsimile with an introduction by William Blades. London: Elliot Stock, 1881. folio.

This does not include the fishing treatise. Mr. Blades shows on what a slender basis the biography of Dame Juliana has been constructed. "What is really known," he says, "is almost nothing, and may be summed-up in the following few words:—She probably lived at the beginning of the fifteenth century, and she possibly compiled from existing MSS. some rhymes on hunting."

So far we have spoken only of the editions of the Book of St. Albans. It must, however, be noted that, in spite of the publisher's dislike of pamphlets, he found it desirable to omit the sentence in which he had expressed it, and to issue this angling tract as a separate publication.

Here begynnyth a treatysse of fysshynge with an angle. Colophon:

Imprynted at London by Wynkyn de Worde, dwellynge in Fletestrete at the sygne of the Sonne. Black letter. 4to.

Signatures A to D iiij. One copy only has been described. There were editions of it issued by John Wolfe in 1590, 1596, 1600 and 1606.

A Booke of fishing with Hooke and Line, and of all other instruments thereunto belonging. Another of sundrie Engines and Trappes to take Polecats, Buzards, Rattes, Mice and all other kind of Vermine and Beasts whatsoever, most profitable for all Warriners, and such as delight in this kinde of sporte and pastime. Made by L. M.

London: Printed by John Wolfe, and are to be solde by Edward White, dwelling at the little North doore of Paules at the signe of the Gunne, 1590 4to.

With the appearance of this book of Mascall's the use of the old Treatise of Fishing with an Angle for practical purposes would be almost at an end.

The Treatyse of Fysshynge wyth an Angle. Attributed to Dame Juliana Berners, reprinted from the Book of St. Albans.

London: Printed with the types of John Baskerville for William Pickering, 1827. 8vo.

This has now become rare, and has been sold in America for $82.

An American edition of the Treatyse of Fysshynge wyth an Angle from the Book of St. Albans by Dame Juliana Berners A.D. 1496. Edited by G. W. Van Siclen of the New York bar A.D. 1875. 12mo.

This is reprinted from Pickering's reprint. Mr. Van Siclen conjectures that the frontispiece represents St. Peter, and observes—"it is quite as good a likeness of him as I have seen." Whatever may be thought of this, there are few who will not endorse the sentiment of the following passage:—"I have no doubt that every angler who reads this book will thank me for having had it republished. I may be said to have led you to the cool limpid waters of the sources of the trout stream—the spring hidden in the ancient woods, and whose brim is adorned with the moss of centuries."

A Treatyse of Fysshynge with an angle by Dame Juliana Berners: being a facsimile reproduction of the first book on the subject of fishing. Printed in England by Wynkyn de Worde at Westminster in 1496, with an introduction by Rev. M. G. Watkins M.A.

London: Elliot Stock 1880.

Mr. Watkin is not so iconoclastic as Mr. Blades, and is disposed to accept Dame Juliana as the authoress of the Book of St. Albans, including the treatise on fishing.

The treatyse of fysshynge wyth an angle, first printed by Wynkyn de Worde in 1496, with preface and glossary by Thomas Satchell.

London: W. Satchell & Co., 1883. 4to. (200 *copies printed.*)

An older form of the Treatyse of Fysshynge with an angle attributed to Dame Juliana Barnes. Printed from a MS. in the possession of Alfred Denison Esq. with preface and glossary by Thomas Satchell. *London: W. Satchell & Co.* 1883. 4to. (200 *copies printed*).

This MS. was formerly in the possession of William Herbert and afterwards in that of Joseph Haslewood, who professed to give its various readings in his edition. The differences are, however, greater than might be supposed, and it is really an independent text, which Professor Skeat is inclined to assign to an earlier date than 1450. The book is carefully edited, well glossed and handsomely printed. It forms a choice addition to the *Bibliotheca Piscatoria*.

With this we may end the bibliography of the first English angling book. Another edition is announced as in preparation by Mr. Edmund Goldsmid of Edinburgh, but has not yet appeared.

Whoever the author of the "Treatyse of Fysshynge wyth an Angle" may have been, the book was a distinct addition to English literature, and the keynote then struck has been followed by the finer music of Isaac Walton and Sir Humphry Davy. The charm of this literature is felt and acknowledged by many who, like the writer of these lines, have never handled an angle and never intend to do.

THE INTERNATIONAL HEALTH EXHIBITION LIBRARY.

By J. L. Clifford Smith, *Hon. Secretary to the Library Sub-Committee.*

This Library, which was opened to the public on Monday the 16th June, was organized by a special sub-committee, appointed in February last by the executive council.* The original intention was to refer to this department the exhibits comprised within the "Literature" class under each group of the two divisions into which the exhibition has been divided. But, besides dealing with these exhibits in this way, the Library sub-committee have brought together a large collection of official reports, central and local, bearing on the administration of sanitary laws at home and abroad. In their endeavours to render this part of their work as complete as possible, they have been much indebted to Her Majesty's Government for valuable assistance rendered by the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, who, at the request of the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos, the chairman of the executive council, caused to be issued to British diplomatic representatives abroad, circulars inviting them to obtain lists, accompanied by specimens, of reports and works bearing on the administration of the sanitary and education departments of the countries to which they were accredited.

The Library Sub-Committee have also been in correspondence with the Mayors of boroughs and Chairmen of local boards, with a view to obtain copies of local Sanitary Acts and reports, of which a large number have been received.

The Committee, furthermore, entered into correspondence with the authorities of all the principal health resorts at home and abroad, in order to obtain a collection of Guide books and medical and popular treatises referring to the climatic and other advantages of these places, and, as a result, an interesting feature of the Library is the varied collection of books and photographs received from a large number of these resorts.

Authors and publishers throughout Europe were also invited to send contributions, and the Committee are much indebted to those who responded to their appeal.

The number of books received amounts to about 5,000, and the room in which the library has been arranged is in the Albert Hall, over-looking the conservatory. Its furnishing and decorations were entrusted to Messrs. Liberty & Co., who have successfully converted the previous bar-like appearance of the room into a comfortable literary lounge. Here also are to be found, in addition to the books in the library proper, files of the daily papers and English and Foreign sanitary and educational Journals.

A collection of works composed entirely of voluntary contributions cannot, of course, claim to be in any measure complete, but it is believed that much will be found that is interesting and instructive, and that the Library will thus aid in furthering the objects of the exhibition. The catalogue, which has been already noticed in the Chronicle, has been compiled, under the direction of the sub-committee, by Mr. Carl A. Thimm; but owing to the circumstances under which the books were got together, and the necessity for having the catalogue issued as soon as possible, a thorough classification has not been attempted. I think, however, that this brief note on the origin and formation of the Library, may not be without interest to the Members of the Library Association.

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* The Members of the Sub-Committee were the following :—Mr. Ernest Clarke, the Rev. Thomas Graham, D.D., Mr. Ernest Hare, Mr. C. M. Kennedy, C.B., Mr. A. C. King, F.S.A., Dr. William Ogle, Mr. J. L. Clifford Smith and Dr. Dawson Williams.

RICHARD DE BURY AND HIS EDITORS.

By Ernest C. Thomas.

What lover of books or student of literary history is not familiar with the name of Richard de Bury and of his "excellent treatise on the love of books," the Philobiblon? Yet how many such are there who can be said to know much more of the book than its title, or perchance some of the more striking extracts from it which have long done duty as quotations to adorn an essay or to commend the wares set forth in a bookseller's catalogue?

One reason for this slender acquaintance with the Philobiblon as a whole is to be found no doubt in the scarcity of the earlier editions of the work. Yet another and perhaps the chief cause of this neglect is to be found in the fact that Richard de Bury has not yet found a competent editor. Though the number of these editors has been few, this may appear surprising, seeing we have the editions of Cocheris in Paris in 1856, and of Hand in America in 1861, besides the translation of Inglis in 1832. But if our readers will accompany us in a brief survey of the various editions of this book, we think we shall satisfy them that what we say is true. We may be allowed to premise a very few words about the book itself.

The Philobiblon was written, or finished, in the year 1344, as we learn from a note which is to be found in some of the copies. Its author at the date of its composition was Bishop of Durham, and had held for some time the offices of Treasurer and of Chancellor to Edward III. Wearied of the cares of an uncongenial office, he may be supposed to have preferred a position which afforded him more leisure to devote to his favourite pursuits. He is said to have possessed more books than all the bishops put together. William de Chambre in his life of De Bury tells us that not only had he quantities of books at each of his residences, but that they found their way even into his bed chamber to such an extent "quod ingredientes vix stare poterant vel incedere nisi librum pedibus conculcarent." The Bishop's own account of himself in his book, which abounds in autobiographical details, renders this account more than probable. He describes the way in which he was constantly seeking out the neglected treasures of the monastic libraries; how the gifts which most pleased him from friends and suitors were books; how he was known to all the booksellers and stationers not only of his own country but of France, Germany, and Italy, who were always on the look-out for purchases for him; and finally how in all his residences he had always numbers of those who were engaged in the production and decoration of books — a "multitudo non modica antiquariorum, scriptorum, colligatorum, correctorum, illuminatorum et generaliter omnium qui poterant librorum servitiis utiliter insudare." The passion for collecting books certainly seems to have taken in his case the form of a veritable *bibliomania* and he describes himself as "exstatico quodam librorum amore abreptum." He tells us in the eighth chapter, in which he records his own history, of his visits to the continent, whither he went several times upon important embassies — carrying with him "a love of books which many waters could not quench," and bursts into a passionate eulogy of Paris and the joys he found in the contemplation of its literary treasures. Nor was he one of those selfish collectors who amass only for their own private pleasure. The last chapter of the work describes the laws he laid down for the management of the library he established in the college he founded at Oxford, called by him Durham College, which after its dissolution was replaced by my own

College of Trinity. De Bury was therefore a benefactor and promoter of learning, and this should surely lend an added charm to the one little book which is the sole remaining memorial of his inexhaustible love of books. Considering its interest in this respect, to say nothing of its vivid picture of the state of learning and society in De Bury's time, it is hardly creditable to us that the Latin text should have been printed once only in the Bishop's native country, and that now nearly three hundred years ago!

The MSS. of the Philobiblon are sufficiently numerous and widely distributed to show that the book enjoyed no small share of popularity in the age when it was written. A fair proportion of those known to me are of the fourteenth century, though many are of the fifteenth. Unfortunately the earliest printed texts appear to have been derived from some of these later manuscripts.

The Philobiblon was first printed at Cologne in the year 1473, and appears on the one hand to have been been printed from an inferior MS. or MSS., and on the other to have derived little benefit from editorial care. Probably indeed its printer was its only editor and he was obviously not a very competent person, as the book abounds in errors of the press.

In 1483 the book was printed for the second time, at Spires, and by the brothers John and Conrad Hijst. This time indeed it appears to have found an editor, who contributes a short but interesting introduction in the form of a letter to the printers, whom he addresses as "studiosissimi impressores." The anonymous editor describes himself as "minimus sacerdotum." In this case the editor expressly tells us that he found his task very difficult, because of the state of the copy from which the book was printed.

The express statement in this case, and the evidence of the printed text in both these cases enables us to make short work of the view which appears to have guided the modern editors. They have acted on the theory that the earliest printed text was necessarily the best and most genuine. The theory is very plainly expressed by Mr. Inglis in the notes to his translation of the Philobiblon. He says, speaking of an error in the text of the first edition, "From this and other similar errors it is inferred that as no pains were taken to correct errors, none were taken to alter the text, and that it is therefore upon the whole more genuine than the Oxford edition." And he continues: "The edition of 1473 was printed 129 years after the work was written, and *the MS. was probably of much earlier date.*" To begin with, we are not of course entitled to assume that the MS. from which the editio princeps was printed was of a "much earlier date," or of an earlier date at all. The probabilities lie rather the other way: for we have more MSS. of the fifteenth than of the fourteenth century. Nor, in the next place, are we entitled to assume that the printers or editors faithfully reproduced the MS. from which they worked. As to the first edition, we do not know that there was an editor at all; and with regard to the editor of the second, the license he appears to have allowed himself may be perhaps sufficiently shown by two instances. The Prologue begins in all the MSS. with which I am acquainted, and in all the other printed texts: "Universis Christi fidelibus ad quos praesentis scripturae tenor pervenerit Richardus de Buri." The Spires editor boldly changes the words "Christi fidelibus," to the words "litterarum cultoribus," and omits the following clause altogether. Again in the thirteenth chapter there occurs a difficult sentence: "Quot Euclidis discipulos rejecit Ellefuga quasi scopulus eminens et abruptus." The word is also found written or printed "Elifuga" and "Eleofuga," and has evidently puzzled the editors. But the

Spires editor solves the difficulty by the simple plan of evading it, and writes: "Quot Euclides discipulos rejecit quasi scopulus, etc."

In the year 1500 the Philobiblon was printed in Paris as the joint undertaking of Jean Petit and Iodocus Badius Ascensius, the publishers, as we learn from the preface contributed by the latter. This edition is of no great critical value.

Next comes the first English edition of this English book, which is also the first edition that can be said to have been at all adequately edited. The book was printed at Oxford in 1599, and the editor was Thomas James, the first Bodleian Librarian. The text professes to be based upon a collation of various manuscripts, of which there were several in Oxford. This edition has been condemned; and in particular Mr. Inglis has very severely observed that James "was not a man to be satisfied with correcting errors or supplying omissions of transcribers and printers: he (*i.e.* Mr. Inglis) even doubts his having collated various ancient manuscripts, but has no doubt of his having preferred his own words to those of the author." After a very careful examination of the Oxford edition I am able to say confidently that this language is wholly undeserved. It is impossible to doubt that James honestly used the MSS. at his disposal, and I believe that there is next to nothing in his text for which he has not manuscript authority, except in a few places in which no MSS. gave a satisfactory text at all. The MSS. at that time in Oxford were probably six or eight in number. The best of the Oxford MSS. indeed was probably not examined by him, for it did not come to Oxford until James had been long dead. As regards then his use of manuscript authorities our verdict must be in James's favour. Though much was left to do, he perhaps did all that could fairly be expected of an editor then. But he might certainly have done more for the improvement of the text, if he had bestowed more pains upon the manifest errors and defects of the manuscript authorities. I have put together a few passages as examples of what required to be done for the elucidation of the text, but it will, I think, be more convenient to discuss them at the end of this Paper, when I come to consider what the various editors have left undone. It should be noted perhaps that James calls his edition "editio jam secunda," and that he gives the title not as Philobiblon but "Philobiblion"; the MSS. however write it Philobiblon, and I quite agree with Inglis that "if the first was the author's own word, it ought not to be altered." This latter form he perhaps adopted from the Paris text of 1500, which also calls the book Philobiblion.

I need not do more than mention two reprints of the Philobiblon in which no profession of editorship appears to have been intended. In 1610 it was appended to the "Philologicarum Epistolarum Centuria" of Melchior Goldast, and in 1703 was included in the Supplement to Mader's collection of treatises "De Bibliothecis."

From that time there was an interval of nearly a century and a half before the Bishop's treatise was introduced to the English-reading public by Mr. Inglis. As the edition of 1599 is the only edition of the Latin text printed in England, so this translation issued by Mr. Inglis in 1832 is the only English translation which has yet been published. The merits of this version as a piece of English are by no means inconsiderable. It would be doing injustice to Mr. Inglis not to admit that his language is upon the whole clear, vigorous and even spirited. Its defects lie on the side of scholarship and criticism. Mr. Inglis himself tells us that he does not pretend to scholarship, and that "this translation would not have appeared if there had been any other good or bad." As a representation of De Bury's book the translation suffers

from the defects which I have already noticed of following the defective text of the first printed edition; and the translation, as was perhaps to be expected, hardly satisfies in point of accuracy and fidelity all the requirements of exact scholarship. Mr. Inglis's notes bear evidence to his study of medieval writings, but his knowledge of ancient literature hardly suffices for the explanation of De Bury's more obscure allusions, and his notes wander too frequently into prolix theological diatribes and polemics. Nevertheless his book is, all circumstances considered, a good piece of work, and will always be interesting to the lover of De Bury as the product of a thoughtful and independent mind.

De Bury's next editor was found in France, in that city of Paris which the good Bishop lauds as the "paradysus mundi." This was M. Hippolyte Cocheris of the Bibliothèque Mazazine, who published in 1856 a French translation, together with the Latin text. The translation follows, except in a very few places, the edition of 1473, "par ce qu'elle se rapportait au plus grand nombre de manuscrits." The assumption implied in the last sentence, as we have already mentioned, appears to be quite unjustifiable. The text professes to be "révu sur les anciennes éditions et les manuscrits de la Bibliothèque imperiale." What this text really is, it is perhaps difficult to say. It is certainly not based upon the manuscripts collated by M. Cocheris, and it certainly does not reproduce the text of the edition of 1473; that of 1483 M. Cocheris was unable to see. It appears to us that the text has been reprinted from the Supplement to Mader, which was professedly a reprint from Goldast, and Goldast again a reprint from the Paris edition of 1500. It seems very unfortunate that M. Cocheris should have elected to reprint a text which we have shown already to be imperfect, instead of using the materials at his disposal to produce a more correct text. He has, indeed, in his notes afforded the reader the opportunity of doing this for himself. He has given the reading of three MSS. in the Bibliothèque Nationale at Paris, and so far has rendered good service to the reader of De Bury. Two of them are excellent MSS. of the fourteenth century, and appear to be of about equal value. They correct the printed text in many places, and no one could have any reasonable doubt that they afford a text infinitely superior to any hitherto printed. It was hardly fair, therefore, on the part of M. Cocheris to throw upon each reader the task of restoring the text as he goes along.

The qualifications necessary for the editor or of a writer whose text has been corrupted, and whose work abounds in more or less obscure allusions, are first, some degree of critical power to secure a good text, and a sufficient breadth of knowledge to explain the allusions. Industry and acumen are assumed as a matter of course. Now in industry M. Cocheris is certainly not lacking, nor is it suggested that he is deficient in general intelligence. But he does not appear to us to possess a sufficient critical faculty. His text is radically unsound, for the reason already mentioned. His few critical suggestions do not remove the impression necessarily created by this fundamental weakness. Thus in the prologue, on the sentence, "ardentes lucernae *non* ponuntur sub modio sed prae defectu olei exstinguuntur," he observes that the reading nunc (for non) "est la seule admissible, *La négation détruirait* le veritable sens;" though the negative makes excellent sense and the best MSS. are unanimous in its favour. Again, in the first chapter, De Bury, addressing himself to Sapientia, says that through her aid men "deposita rusticitate nativa . . . apices consequuntur honoris fiuntque patres patriae et comites principum qui sine te conflassent lanceas

in ligones et vomeres vel cum filio prodigo pascerent forte sues." Here Cocheris, seeing the allusion to the passage in Joel (iii. 10) thinks that the copyists have gone wrong, and proposes to read *ligones et vomeres in lanceas*. But the whole point is that but for Sapientia these men would have been rustics instead of soldiers of the Church, and the change is quite unnecessary. Thus in the few instances where Cocheris does propose changes he does so unwisely, and on the other hand he contributes nothing to the emendation of the really corrupt and difficult passages to be mentioned directly.

Again, he seems to be deficient in the special knowledge required for the elucidation of De Bury's book. Of this two or three instances must suffice here. His translation of the words (Prol.) "qui omnem de agibilibus quaestionem consilium probat esse" "qui . . . est d'avis que, surtout ce qu'on doit faire il est nécessaire de prendre conseil," shows that he has a very slender acquaintance with the philosophy of Aristotle. The "Theophrasti vel Valerii volumen," of chap. iv. refers not, as he suggests, to the *Characters* of Theophrastus and the *De dictis factisque* of Valerius Maximus, but, as the context plainly shows, to the "Aureolus libellus" of quite another Theophrastus, and the "Valerius ad Rufinum de non ducenda uxore," which is one of the commonest of mediæval MSS. Again, in chap. xiii. he mistakes the Euclid of Alexandria the geometer for the Euclid of Megara the philosopher. It seems very extraordinary indeed that he appears to be unaware that the mediæval Latin name for Paris is Parisius, treated as indeclinable, and thus gives us Parisiis and Parisios where the MSS. and the three first of the printed texts give us always Parisius (chaps. iv. *bis*, and viii.) We must add, though it may seem ungracious to complain of an editor for doing too much, that the contrast is too painful between the paucity of explanation, where explanation is greatly needed, and the superfluity of irrelevant or useless illustration with which his introduction and notes are overburdened. Comp. pp. xxxv., xliii., and the long notes, which really elucidate nothing, on pp. 4, 17, 25, 42, 52, 57, 73, 83, 90, 97, 106, 113.

In 1861 was published at Albany in a limited impression of 230 copies what is called the "First American Edition," under the editorship of one Samuel Hand. What Mr. Hand did was to print the text of Cocheris and the translation of Mr. Inglis, faithfully reproducing all the errors of the former, and all the inaccuracies of the latter. To these he prefixed a translation of Cocheris' introduction, and concluded his labour of love and larceny by annexing Mr. Inglis's notes. His own notes are of no value, and in many cases are absurd, and, of course, he leaves the text where he found it—partly, as he insinuates, because ancient manuscripts, like ruined castles, are not very common in America; but chiefly, I fear, because he was unable to discriminate between a good text and a bad one, or to see how little Cocheris had done to substitute the former for the latter.

Having completed our brief review of the editors and editions, I will now ask you to look at a few of the more striking passages in which editorial aid was especially needed, and to observe how much these successive editors have left undone.

The first place to which I will call your attention is in the prologue. De Bury, speaking of those who have begun their education for the church, but have been compelled by poverty to desist, exclaims: "Heu quod sol eclipsatur in aurora clarissima et planeta progrediens regiratur retrograde ac naturam et speciem veræ stellæ prætendens subito decidit et fit *assub!*" So Cocheris prints the passage, which he translates, "la planète . . . prenant la nature et la forme d'une étoile s'éteint subitement

et disparait !" Some of the editors print the word *Assub* with a capital letter, but the best MSS. write *asub* as one word, while the editions of 1473 and 1483 print *a sub*. Cocheris strangely enough appears not to be aware of this and offers this last reading as an explanation of his own, comparing *de sub* and *per sub* without giving, however, any references for the use of any one of these phrases. Without going so far as to say that I am dissatisfied with this explanation, I confess that the phrase seems to me to be foreign to the Bishop's style and I should like to see some contemporary authority for the phrase *a sub*. Nor can the passage be said to be fully cleared up until we know whence its astronomy is derived.

In the fourth chapter we find a passage in which it is, I think, necessary to resort to conjecture. Books are supposed to be speaking of their cruel usage: "Ventres nostri duris torsionibus viscerum quae vermes edaces non cessant corrodere consumuntur *et utriusque lateris* sustinemus putredinem nec invenitur quisquam, qui cedri resina nos liniat vel qui quatriduano jam putrido clamans dicat, Lazare veni foras !" "Et utriusque *lateris*," prints M. Cocheris, and translates "nous portons la corruption dans nos flancs." So too Mr. Inglis: "We suffer corruption inside and out." But the MSS. read *Lazari* or *lazari*, instead of *lateris*, and one of the best, cited by Cocheris, reads "viri usque Lazari." *Lateris*, therefore, was an editor's or printer's correction of the "utriusque Lazari," which he could not understand. But the difficulty seems to me to lie not in the Lazari, but in the "et utriusque," and I propose, therefore, to read "*alteriusque* Lazari," which at once makes excellent sense of the whole passage. The books must be supposed to say we are suffering the corruption *of another Lazarus*, and there is no one to come and call to us, "Lazarus come forth !"

In the seventh chapter there occurs a passage which at first sight certainly presents an insoluble difficulty. It is as follows: "Miseremur Zenonis principis Stoicorum qui ne consilium proderet linguam morsu secuit et exspuit in tyrannum intrepide. Heu jam rursus Adiomerita tritus in mortario pistillatur." The difficulty here does not lie in the mention of Zeno as the Stoic; that is easily explained as a blunder of De Bury, who confounded the founder of the Stoics with Zeno of Elea. It is of the latter that the story is told of his biting out his tongue and spitting it in the tyrant's face. The difficulty lies obviously in the word Adiomerita, which is of course an impossible form. Cocheris clearly feels that the case is hopeless, and says that the copyist has blundered, translating the word, however, as a proper name, "Adiomérite." James, remembering that the philosopher Anaxarchus is said to have been pounded to death in a mortar by the tyrant Nicocreon, boldly alters the word to "Anaxarchus." But unfortunately the MSS. are unanimous against him, all presenting readings which point to a common original. The most important of them have Adiometonta—a Dyomedonta,—a Diamedonta. After a long and useless search, in a happy instant I came upon one version of the story of the Zeno's fate in an author no longer extant except in quotations to the effect that *Zeno* was brayed to death in a mortar by a tyrant called *Diomedon*, whose name does not figure even in Dr. Smith's great *Dictionary of Biography*. It seems to me obvious that somewhere or other De Bury had come across this version of the matter, and it is equally obvious that what he wrote was "Jam rursus a Diomedonte tritus in mortario pistillatur."

(*To be continued.*)

The Library Chronicle.

The LIBRARY CHRONICLE *is issued on the 15th of the month, and communications, books for review, etc., intended for the forthcoming number should be addressed, not later than the 10th of the month, to the Hon. Editor,* ERNEST C. THOMAS, *care of Messrs. J. Davy & Sons, 137, Long Acre, W.C.*

The attention of librarians and library committees, of publishers and booksellers, is called to the advantages of the CHRONICLE *(which represents at least 250 libraries) as an advertising medium. Advertisements of Library Vacancies, and of Books Wanted, or Duplicates for Sale or Exchange by Libraries are inserted at low rates.*

Members of the Library Association whose subscription for the current year has been paid are entitled to receive the CHRONICLE.

Remittances, subscriptions, and advertisements should be sent to Mr. E. M. BORRAJO, *care of the Publishers.*

The Library Association cannot be responsible for the views expressed by the contributors to the CHRONICLE.

The Library Association.

The following gentlemen being engaged in library administration have joined the Association since the last Monthly Meeting:—Mr. HENRY ALLPASS, Librarian, Public Library, Derby; Rev. FREDERICK ANTROBUS, Librarian, The Oratory, Brompton, S.W.; Lord CHARLES BRUCE; Dr. F. EYSSENHARDT, Stadtbibliothekar, Hamburg; Mr. G. C. HILL, Park Road, Peterborough; Mr. H. D. HUTTON, Editor of the Printed Catalogue, Trinity College Library, Dublin; Mr. TWEED D. A. JEWERS, Librarian, Public Library, Portsmouth; Mr. COUNCILLOR LYND, Leeds; and the Mayor of Newcastle-upon-Tyne (Dr. H. W. NEWTON).

The Hon. Secretary has to acknowledge the receipt of a copy of the "Lois et Règlements concernant les Archives du Royaume de Hongrie," which has been presented to the Association by the Austrian Government, and transmitted to him from the Foreign Office by the courtesy of Sir Julian Pauncefote.

Also, of Copies of the Catalogue of the Library of the Parliament of Victoria, sent "by direction of the Joint Parliamentary Library Committee, acting on the suggestion of Mr. C. W. Holgate."

Library Echoes.

The Local Committee at Dublin have completed their programme, which will now shortly be in the hands of members. We think they will pronounce it one that does honour to our friends in Dublin and to the Library Association.

As is fitting and natural, considering the place and circumstances of our meeting this year, the programme will be found strong in learned and bibliographical papers, though practical and technical subjects are not missing.

After the President's Address, Mr. Henry Bradshaw will talk to us of "Printing in Ireland," while the Dean of Armagh (Dr. Reeves) will give an account of the interesting "Public Library of Armagh." Mr. Bullen will treat of some "Notices of Gutenberg;" and Lord Charles Bruce will speak with intimate knowledge of Lord Spencer's Library at Althorp. Mr. Henry Stevens will draw upon his "Twenty Years' Recollections of Panizzi," and finally, Mr. Tedder will discuss the "Study of Bibliography."

The more practical papers will embrace one by Dr. Garnett on "Photography in Libraries," and another by Mr. Archer on "Classification." Mr. Hutton will give "Impressions of Twelve Years' Cataloguing in a Great Library," and Mr. Deane will exhibit his plans for the new National Library of Ireland.

In connexion with Free Public Libraries, Mr. Mullins will speak of the "Less pleasant Duties of a Librarian," and Mr. Thomas will discuss the results of "Thirty Years of the Libraries' Acts." The Reports of

the Committees on the Examination of Library Assistants, and on the Working of the Acts in Small Places, complete a pretty full list of agenda.

One other paper we should not omit to mention. One of our life members, whose ill-health has necessitated a stay in Australia, has sent over a very careful account of the "Libraries of Australia." Libraries are springing up so fast in the colonies, and our information about them is so scanty, that we look forward with much interest to Mr. Holgate's account of his enquiries.

Visits will, of course, be paid to libraries and similar institutions. An event that should specially interest us is arranged for the second day of our meeting, when the Lord Mayor of Dublin will open the Two Free Libraries just established there. Our members are specially invited to attend the ceremony, and the Lord Mayor will receive them in the evening. The President will receive the members on Tuesday evening at Trinity College, and the Local Committee will entertain them at dinner on Wednesday. The President of the Royal Irish Academy and Lady Ferguson will receive the members on Thursday evening, and the Provost of Trinity College and Mrs. Jellett will receive them on Friday afternoon.

There is so much to be said about Dublin that it is difficult to break away from it. But the opening of the new Library building at Newcastle is an event of too much importance to be overlooked. We have spoken of it elsewhere in the present number, which, in a sense, indeed, may be almost said to be a Newcastle number.

We hope that the Illustrations we are able to present in our present number will be found of interest, and that the innovation will commend itself to our readers.

The association of the articles on Newcastle and Bishop de Bury in this number, naturally suggests the question, what would have been the feelings of the Bishop if he could have been present at the opening of the libraries, which are doing a work such as he never dreamt of, almost within the shadow of his own Cathedral of Durham?

EDITOR.

Library Notes and News.

HOME.

CHELTENHAM.—We learn from Mr. William Jones, the Librarian, that the Public Library is making progress and will, it is hoped, be ready for opening in the early part of October. There are now almost 4,000 volumes in the Library, of which upwards of 1600 volumes have been presented, including some of considerable value.

CHESTER.—A resolution in favour of opening the Free Library on Sundays has been adopted in the Council by a large majority.

DUBLIN.—The Librarians of the new Free Libraries about to be opened in Dublin were instructed to visit and report on the working of the Public Libraries' Acts in England. Accordingly Mr. P. Grogan and Mr. M. D. Weir visited the libraries of Birmingham, Leeds, Bradford and Liverpool, and their account of them will be found a very interesting document. Mr. Grogan adds a special report on the Birkenhead library.

LONDON: BRITISH MUSEUM.—The Museum has recently lost two of its officers by death. Mr. E. A. Roy, Assistant-keeper of Printed Books, died on Aug. 14, at the age of 64. He was a member of the Library Association and a contributor to the London Conference Volume.

Mr. T. H. Lidderdale, a first-class assistant and a good Scandinavian scholar in the same department, died on Sept. 5, aged 54. Mr. Lidderdale had undertaken the preparation of a catalogue of all the Icelandic books in the Museum, the printing of which is nearly completed. Notices of Mr. Roy and Mr. Lidderdale will be found in the *Athenæum* (pp. 237, 337).

MANCHESTER. — "A Working Man" suggests in a Note published in the *Manchester City News* (Aug. 23) that the Chetham Library should be separated from the Hospital and transferred to the keeping of the city in connexion with the Free Public Library.

NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYNE.—At a meeting of the inhabitants of Newcastle-under-Lyne on September 9th, the Mayor in the chair, resolutions were carried almost unanimously in favour of adopting the Public Baths and the Libraries Acts. Mr. H. Coghill has promised £1000., if both proposals are carried out.

NORWICH.—On Aug. 26 after a long debate the Council decided by 21 votes to 12 not to accept a recommendation from the Free Libraries' Committee that as an experiment the Reading Room should be open on Sundays from 3 to 9 p.m.

PORTSMOUTH.—Certain structural alterations have been made at the Public Library and have supplied additional space for a proper arrangement of the books. The number of borrowers is already 1771, and the number is daily increasing. During the month of August 10,315 books were issued.

RICHMOND.—Mr. Cotgreave has resigned his position at Richmond in order to accept the librarianship of the Wandsworth Free Library, where he proposes to commence his duties in three months' time. The resignation was received by the Richmond Library Committee with expressions of very great regret.

WANDSWORTH.—The Library Commissioners have decided to take the premises known as Putney Lodge, West Hill, at a cost including alterations and fittings of £1700, and it is hoped to open the Library before the end of the year.

WIGAN. Mr. J. H. Johnson has presented to the Free Library a valuable MS. of the Bible on vellum, 3 vols. fol., written about 1350. It is the copy which once belonged to Dr. Adam Clarke and afterwards to Mr. Frederic Ouvry, who gave an account of it to the Society of Antiquaries, which may be found in their Proceedings.

WORCESTER.—Mr. Downes has given notice that at the October meeting of the Library Committee he will move a series of resolutions in favour of bringing the Science and Art Schools under one management with the Free Library and Museum. He proposes "the creation of one Institution combining Libraries, Museum, Art School, Science School and Art Gallery."

The New Public Libraries Amendment Act received the Royal assent on 28th July. It is 47 & 48 Vict. c. 37. A print of it while it was still in the Bill stage will be found in our May number.

A circular has been issued from the Home Office (dated August 29th) addressed to the Mayors of places which have adopted the Libraries Acts asking for information to enable the return which was moved for by Mr. Anderson, M.P. to be laid before the House of Commons.

At the Annual Meeting of the Worcestershire Union of Workmen's Clubs and Institutes, to be held at Pershore, on Tuesday, September 23rd, Mr. Samuel Smith, Public Librarian, Worcester, will read a Paper on "Club and Institute Libraries." The chair will be taken by Lord Lyttelton, the President of the Union.

At the Trades Union Congress, held at Aberdeen, on September 13th, the following resolution was passed: "That this Congress, being of opinion that a general adoption of the Public Libraries Acts would tend to greatly improve the social condition of the people, strongly recommends that the adoption of these Acts should be made compulsory in all towns, parishes or districts where the Compulsory Education Acts are in force." A motion in favour of the Sunday opening of museums and art galleries was lost.

FOREIGN.

KIEL.—In connexion with the opening of the new building of the University Library, the librarian, Dr. Emil Steffenhagen, and Dr. August Wetzel have published three essays on the Monastic Library of

Bordesholm and the Gottorf Library, forming a volume of over two hundred pages. The former library formed the groundwork of the University library, while the latter was formed of a part of the Bordesholm books, which now belong to the Royal Library of Copenhagen.

Moscow.—In his report upon the manufacturing industries of the Moscow Government, Dr. Jandjool, professor of political economy at Moscow, and Government Inspector of the district, classes with baths, infirmaries and savings' banks, also libraries, as among the desirable appurtenances to factories. At present only three industrial establishments within the professor's district have libraries attached.

Paris: Bibliothèque Forney.—According to *Le Livre* it is expected that this Library (see *ante* p. 51) will be opened in November. A managing Committee has been appointed containing representatives of the chief Parisian industries. The library is devoted to art and industry and it is proposed to lend art pictures as well as books.

Paris: Bibliothèques populaires.—The Report upon the popular libraries of the Paris arrondissements, recently published, gives the total number of volumes in these institutions as 100,247, being about 8,000 more than the number in the previous year. It is estimated that on the average each volume has in the course of the year been issued five or six times. The number of home loans was 440,670, being an increase of 77,348. The increase was more than made up by the issues of fiction, which were 305,740.

St. Petersburg.—A decree dated 5th January, but which appears to have been only just promulgated, orders 125 works (in 210 vols.), many of them by standard authors, such as Bagehot, Huxley, Lubbock, Lecky, Lewes, Mill, Adam Smith, and Herbert Spencer, to be circulated in public libraries and reading-rooms.

Stuttgart.—The MSS. and incunabula of the Royal Private Library have been transferred into the new building of the Royal Public Library, where they will be safe from fire and more easily accessible to scholars, who must often have deplored the arbitrary division of the treasures of monastic collections between the two libraries.

We are glad to learn that our hon. member, Prof. Dziatzko, University Librarian of Breslau, proposes to be in England in October.

The July number of the *Library Journal* contains an important article by Mr. Melvil Dewey on the proposed "School of Library Economy at Columbia College," to which we hope to call attention again. The August number contains articles by Mr. C. A. Cutter on "The Place of Folk-lore in a Classification," and on the "Arrangement and Notation of Shaksperiana," and also a three-page table of the "Statistics of Thirty-six Free Public Libraries in America," the majority of which are in Massachusetts. The largest are those of Boston, Chicago and San Francisco.

The August-September double number of Dr. Petzholdt's *Anzeiger* contains another article on the Royal Library at Berlin, which is being a good deal discussed in Germany just now.

The *Centralblatt* for August contains an article by E. Forstemann on "Systematic, Alphabetical and Chronological arrangement," and the concluding instalment of a "List of Recent Persian printed Books in the Royal Library of Berlin," by M. Steinschneider, and a very curious code of the library rules of a nunnery, dating from the year 1259, by Dr. E. Kelchner. We do not know what the *Bibliographer* means by speaking of this as "an article on a library arrangement" (*sic*). The title of the article is "Eine Bibliotheks-ordnung aus dem Jahre 1259," and the meaning of it seems plain enough.

We have received from Signor Enrico Narducci, the Librarian of the Alessandrina, at Rome, a copy of his book "Dell' uso e della utilità di un Catologo Generale delle Biblioteche d'Italia . . . seguita dalla prima Sillaba dello stesso Catologo," inscribed by the author, "Presented to the Seventh Annual Meeting of the Library Association by H. Narducci."

Library Catalogues and Reports.

Manor of Aston Local Board. The Sixth Annual Report of the Free Libraries Committee. March 26th, 1883, to March 25th, 1884. Aston. 8vo, pp. 16, and wrapper.

The issues from the reference department were 11,041, and from the lending department 69,247. The stock in the former department is 3,403 volumes, and in the latter 5,624. A branch reading room opened in Lichfield Road has been much used, and a course of free popular lectures during the winter months was attended with great success. The amount realized by the rate was £527 15s. 6d. and the excess of expenditure over income £24 4s. 4d.

Bristol Museum and Library. Report of Proceedings at the Thirteenth Annual Meeting, held 21st February, 1884, with List of Subscribers. 8vo. pp. 28.

The Council report a considerable falling off in the number of subscribers to the library department, there being a decrease of 37, but it is noted that 1882 was an exceptionally favourable year, and that the total number now subscribing is higher than the average. There is also a decrease of 15 in the number of subscribers to the news room. 804 persons are entitled to make use of the library department, and there are 138 subscribers to the news room. During the year £138 14s. 10d. was spent in the purchase of new books.

London. Report of the Committee of the London Library to the Forty-third Annual General Meeting of the Members, Thursday, May 29, 1883. [Followed by List of Additions.] 8vo, pp. 44.

183 members have been added during the year, and 142 have been lost by death or withdrawal, being a net gain of 41 members with an increase of £710 income. The total number of members is 1,778. The stock of the library has been increased by 3,574 volumes and 140 pamphlets. The number of volumes sent out for circulation was 94,202, being a decrease of 3,755 upon the previous year. The receipts for the year were £4,675, a decrease of £12—and the expenditure £4,278, an increase of £297. £1070 were expended in the purchase of new books.

Borough of Stafford. The Second Annual Report of the Free Public Library and Newsroom, for the year ending June 30th, 1884. Stafford, 1884. 8vo, pp. 11.

The stock in the lending department is 3,915, and in the reference department 860, a total of 4,775 volumes. The issues from the former department were 30,506, and from the latter 534, a total of 31,040—being an increase of 1,372, although the library was open 11 days less than last year. The number of borrowers is 1,773, an increase of 298. This report contains no financial statement.

Twickenham Free Public Library. Second Annual Report [dated May 2nd, 1884.] 1883-84. Richmond, 1884. 8vo, pp. 15.

The total stock of the library is now 4,246 volumes—3,480 of which are in the lending department, and 766 in the reference department—being an increase of 969 volumes during the year. In order to further increase the stock the Committee have determined to spend £100 forthwith in the purchase of new books. The issues from the lending department were 44,165, and from the reference department 1,968—a total of 46,133, being 3·7 for each inhabitant at a cost of 1½d. per volume. The number of visits paid to the reading room was 83,451, or a daily average of 270—an increase of 56 over last year. The deficit of £91 7s. 3d. on the first year's working has been reduced to £23 10s. 7d. The rate produced £310 2s.

We are informed by Mr. Taylor that the total issues from the Bristol Public Free Libraries were 447,563, an increase of 9,850 over the previous year, and the highest number attained since the opening of the libraries. Over 780,000 visits were paid to the newsrooms, the aggregate of visits to the several departments of the four libraries being 1,227,834. The total number of volumes on the shelves is 51,217.

From the *Journal of the London Institution*, No. 39, Wednesday, April 9, 1884, containing the Report of the Board of Management, we learn that "during the past year the work of the Institution in all its departments has been carried on with its usual success." The lectures were attended by 12,500 persons. The issues from the circulating library were 83,500 volumes. The income for the year was £4,389 17s. 7d., an increase of £94 0s. 9d. The amount expended in books was £459 4s. 2d.

Record of Bibliography and Library Literature.

Index to the English Catalogue of Books. Compiled by Sampson Low. Volume III., Jan. 1874 to Dec. 1880. London: Sampson Low, Marston, Searle & Rivington, 1884. 8vo., pp. [iv] 175, half bound morocco, Price 18s.

This Index is a key to the English Catalogue only, as that is to the Publishers' Circular Journal. It is an Index mainly of titles and of a few subjects, and is not a publication for English bibliographers to boast of. *'Tis true, 'tis pity, pity 'tis, 'tis true.*

Year-book of the Scientific and Learned Societies of Great Britain and Ireland: giving an account of their origin, constitution and working, compiled from Official Sources, with Appendix comprising a list of the leading Scientific Societies throughout the world. First Annual Issue. London: Charles Griffin & Co., 1884. 8vo, pp. v., 226+10. Price 7s. 6d.

It would be unfair to be too critical in dealing with the first issue of what bids fair to be a most useful handbook. Some of the Societies included seem to us hardly to deserve the name of 'Scientific' or 'learned,' and the classification of Societies does not always commend itself to us: See *e. g.* the section headed 'Psychology' (p. 169.) The most conspicuous omission we have noticed is that of the 'Newcastle Lit. and Philos. Society.' There are rather too many misprints also even for a first attempt. Nevertheless we are glad to extend a welcome to the Year-book.

Lois et Règlements en vigueur jusqu'à ce jour concernant les Archives du Royaume de Hongrie. Traduits du Hongrois. Publiés par l'Administration des Archives du Royaume; Budapest, 1884. Imprimerie royale de l'Etat hongrois. 8vo, pp. 31.

This little pamphlet contains the laws and regulations relating to the public archives, commencing with Article XLV. of the Laws of 1723, followed by an extract from the Laws of 1883 relating to the qualifications of public employés. Then follow various decrees and regulations dealing with the administration and conditions of access to the archives, etc. The regulations for the examination of the employés, dating from 1877, are also given together with the rules of the institution of "élèves-archivistes." Finally an extract from the budget shews the *personnel* of the Archives and the salaries paid them. (See *ante* p. 154).

Circulars of Information of the Bureau of Education. No. 2—1884. The Teaching, Practice and Literature of Shorthand, by Julius Ensign Rockwell, Stenographer. Washington: Government Printing Office, 1884. 8vo, pp. 160, with table.

This useful and interesting contribution to the bibliography of shorthand gives an account of shorthand systems with a chronological list of English and American authors of systems and text-books; an account of shorthand in foreign countries and in the United States, with a great mass of information as to its practice, and a bibliography of shorthand works in English (pp. 61-159). An elaborate table of shorthand alphabets concludes the book.

The new Museum Catalogue of its English books to 1640 contains in the entry *Bonaventure's Mirror of the Life of Christ*, &c., a rectification of most, if not all, previous catalogues and bibliographies. Some of the various "ascriptions" of the authorship of the original Latin composition, which has so often been printed among Cardinal Bonaventure's works, are noticed, and the name is given of the English translator, Nicholas Love, who is indubitably identified as Prior of the Carthusian House of Mount Grace de Ingleby, in Yorkshire. Love's name here occurs, we think, for the first time in a catalogue of printed books. We understand that one of the compilers of the Museum Catalogue is engaged in researches which may result in the further identification of Love as a monk who seceded from the Benedictine obedience about the end of the fourteenth century, and who may prove to be the author of other old English texts.

We stated in our August number that a MS. of Wiclif's N. T. had been presented to the Astor Library, and described it as Duke Humphrey's copy. So it is described by Mr. Quaritch in the catalogue from which we understood it to have been purchased, and he states it to bear the good Duke's autograph. The Editor of the *Bibliographer* however describes it (p. 83) as "bearing the autograph of Richard III" (*sic*), though he has not given reasons for this remarkable statement. Is it that he has not appreciated the importance of his own discovery?

Our Hon. Member M. Leopold de Lisle, Administrateur-général of the Bibliothèque Nationale, recently read before the Académie des Inscriptions, a "Mémoire sur l'école calligraphique de Tours au ix^e siècle," to which we hope to call the attention of our readers when it is printed.

We are glad to learn from Dr. Gustav Becker, Custos of the Bonn University Library, that his forthcoming book, to which we referred in our last issue, has almost passed the press and will shortly appear. It will be called "Catalogi Bibliothecarum Antiqui," and embraces 136 early Catalogues from the 8th to the 12th century. These are followed by a list of Catalogues extending to the year 1500. A carefully prepared index will supply all necessary explanations, and serve to some extent as a commentary.

Notes and Queries.

Queries.

Vancouver's Voyage of Discovery to the North Pacific Ocean, 6 vols., 1801. My copy wants pages 29 to 32 of vol. 1, also plate to face page 349, vol. 5. Do these deficiencies occur in other copies? If not, what do pages 29 to 32 contain?

Blume, C. L. Museum Botanicum. 2 vols., 1851-6. Vol. 2 of my copy has pages 1 to 256, diagrams 1 to 58, but no title page and index. Is this the same in all copies? J. D. M.

Correspondence.

Mrs. Bray.

39, Paternoster Row, London, E.C., *August* 18, 1884.

In your Bibliography of Mrs. Bray there is one mistake. You attribute "Physiology for Schools" to Mrs. E. A. Bray—the novelist, and old friend of our house. It is not by her, nor by my cousin Mrs. R. M. Bray, but by Mrs. Charles Bray, who is still alive, and for whom (and her husband) we publish various works.

C. J. Longman.

Australian Libraries.

Union Club, Sydney, N. S. W.

During the present year I have been engaged in visiting the capitals and some of the chief towns of the various Australian Colonies, visiting as many as possible of the large Libraries, and where not able to visit personally I have endeavoured to obtain the most recent statistics and information as to the state and working of these Libraries. My efforts were continued more zealously when I found what progress was being made by some of the Libraries in these Colonies, and that too without the knowledge of or encouragement from the Library Associations in England and America, which are wont to take notice of Library work in all parts of the world. Indeed I believe that with the exception of occasional brief notices of the Melbourne Library in the pages of "Monthly Notes," the Libraries of Australia have received no recognition at the hands of the Association. This seems to me to be regretted, for the Colonies are extremely loyal to England, and their Institutions, modelled as they are on hers, deserve to be encouraged, and the progress which they make, to be recorded equally with those at home. Consequently I have endeavoured, however unsuccessfully and insufficiently, to break the ice which has hitherto surrounded the Libraries in these Colonies, and to introduce them to the best of my ability to the members of the L. A. U. K. I have met with extreme courtesy and assistance in every case, and a generous disposition to give me all the information in their power has been shewn me by all the gentlemen with whom it has been my pleasure to meet in the various Libraries. On this account alone, even if there were no other reasons such as I have already shewn that there are, I should wish to do my utmost to bring before the members of the L. A. U. K. as full and perfect an account of the Libraries in the Australian Colonies as possible.

Clifford W. Holgate, *B.A., B.N.C., Oxford.*

Printed and published for the Library Association of the United Kingdom by J. Davy & Sons, *at the Dryden Press,* 137, *Long Acre, London. Annual Subscription, post free,* 6*s.*

SUPPLEMENT

TO THE

Library Chronicle.

Visit of T. R. H. The Prince and Princess of Wales

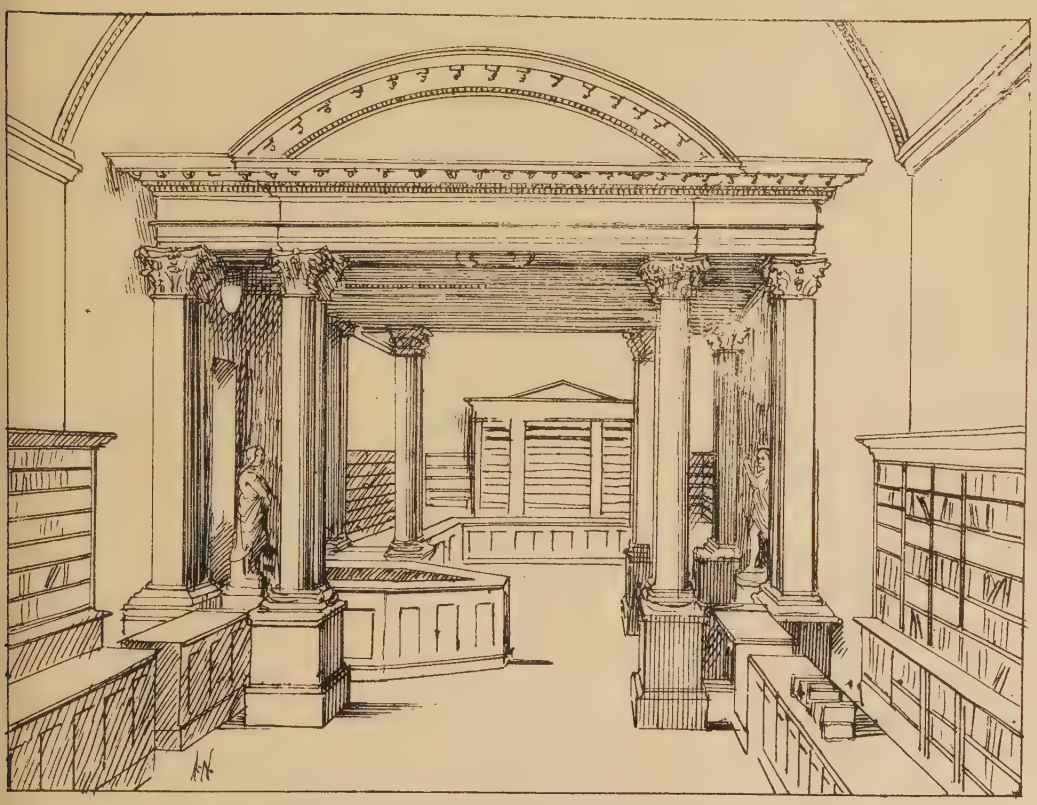
TO

NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.

THE RIGHT WORSHIPFUL THE MAYOR, DR. HENRY W. NEWTON.

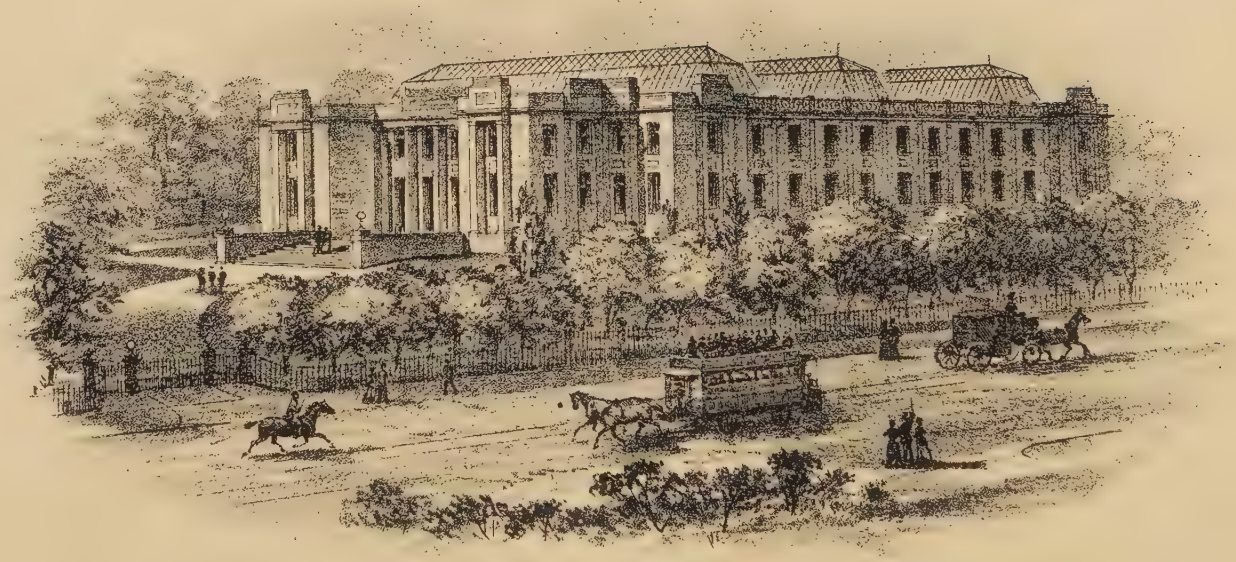
PUBLIC LIBRARY.

MR. W. J. HAGGERSTON, CHIEF LIBRARIAN



INTERIOR OF REFERENCE LIBRARY.

(FROM A PHOTO. BY DOWNEY & CARVER.)



NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM

The Library Chronicle.

THE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION AT DUBLIN.

THE Seventh Annual Meeting of the Library Association began its sittings in the Front Hall of Trinity College on Tuesday, September 30th, at 11 o'clock. The Chair was taken by the President, Prof. John K. Ingram, LL.D., F.T.C.D., Librarian of the University, who was supported by the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor (W. Meagher, M.P.) and the Rev. the Provost of Trinity College (Dr. Jellett). There was a very fair attendance of members from England and Scotland, and a large number of Irish ladies and gentlemen showed their interest in our work by becoming Members or Associates. A full list will be published in due course, and it will be enough to mention here the names of Dr. T. K. Abbott, T.C.D.; Prof. Thomas Arnold; Mr. John Beveridge, Town Clerk; Mr. Maurice Brooks, M.P.; the Right Hon. Lord Charles Bruce, M.P.; Prof. Edward Dowden, T.C.D.; Sir Samuel Ferguson, P.R.I.A.; Mr. William Findlater, M.P.; Mr. J. R. Garstin, D.L.; Rev. R. P. Graves; Rev. Dr. Samuel Haughton; Prof. E. Houghton, Maynooth; Mr. W. Lane Joynt, D.L.; Rev. Canon Leeper, D.D.; Rev. Canon M'Manus; Mr. Geo. M'Master, M.A.; Rev. Prof. J. P. Mahaffy, T.C.D.; Prof. Mir Aulad Ali, T.C.D.; Dr. Moffat, President, Queen's College, Galway; Right Hon. Mr. Justice O'Hagan; Very Rev. Dr. Reeves, Dean of Armagh; Prof. D'Arcy W. Thompson, Queen's College, Galway; Prof. R. Y. Tyrrell, T.C.D.; and Dr. E. Percival Wright, T.C.D.

The President commenced his Opening Address by "offering to the Library Association a hearty welcome to Dublin, and in particular to Trinity College, which gladly receives within its walls a Body pursuing ends kindred to its own, and doing good work for the furtherance of research and the promotion of general culture." Dr. Ingram went on to ask what they could offer to interest their visitors apart from that "interchange of ideas and discussion of principles which are in a great degree independent of the place of meeting," and answered, "that one important function of the Association which its migratory habits enable it to fulfil, is to 'take stock' of the book-treasures of the United Kingdom." He then proceeded to give a brief but comprehensive account of the Library of Trinity College, a library, as he described it, "well stored with ancient and modern literature, containing more than 200,000 volumes of printed books,

and about 2,000 MSS. There are in it, too, certain peculiar and precious things, some of them deserving to be called national heir-looms, which give to it a special character and a dignity of its own." We cannot here follow Dr. Ingram through his interesting account of these treasures, which the members of the Association had afterwards the opportunity of inspecting. In due course it will be laid before our members in a form even fuller if possible than that in which it was delivered. We can only note that Dr. Ingram announced that the printed Catalogue of the library is now nearly finished, and concluded with a graceful compliment to his assistants on their successful endeavours to practise "the three great virtues of a library staff—courtesy, promptitude, and helpfulness." A vote of thanks to the President for his address was moved and supported by the Lord Mayor, the Provost, and Mr. Bullen.

The Report of the Council having been taken as read, it was agreed that it be taken into consideration on Wednesday morning, and the Treasurer's Report was adopted.

Mr. George Bullen then read a Paper "On the Presumed Earliest Printed Notice of Gutenberg as the Inventor of Printing," in which he gave a more correct account of the letter of Guillaume Fichet, which has recently attracted so much attention, than that already published. In the afternoon Dr. Reeves, the learned Dean of Armagh, read a very interesting "Memoir of the Public Library of Armagh." This concluded the first day's work, and the members proceeded to visit Trinity College Library, where they were received by Dr. Ingram, with several members of the Library Board and the members of the Library Staff. A small party who visited the Record Office derived much pleasure and instruction from an examination of the excellent arrangements devised by Sir Samuel Ferguson for the keeping of the Records. In the evening the President received the Members of the Association in the Common Room of Trinity College.

On Wednesday morning the Report on the proposed Examination of Library Assistants was adopted. Mr. E. Howarth, Curator of the Public Museum, Sheffield, took occasion in the course of the discussion on the Report of the Council to move a resolution requesting the Council to consider the desirability of so enlarging the scope of the Association as to include officers connected with Museums and Art Galleries, which was seconded by the Treasurer and carried unanimously.

Mr. H. D. Hutton, editor of the Catalogue of Printed Books in Trinity College Library, read a Paper entitled "Impressions of Twelve Years' Cataloguing in a great Library." The next Paper on the programme was on "The Library at Althorp," by Lord Charles Bruce, M.P. His Excellency the Lord Lieutenant had intimated his intention of attending to hear this Paper, and was received on his arrival by the President, the Provost of Trinity, and the Council of the Association. His Excellency, who was accompanied by Lady Sarah Spencer and Lord Charles Bruce, was conducted to a seat on the right of the President, who then called upon Lord Charles Bruce to read his Paper. The writer gave a full account of the formation and contents of the Library, of which he truly remarked, "that hardly ever had there been brought together a series of books which more thoroughly and completely illustrated the origin and development of the art of printing." He pointed out that the Spencer Library had a more complete collection of Caxtons than the British Museum, numbering fifty-seven separate works, of which thirty-one were perfect and three unique. He called special attention to a recent discovery made in the library, a broadside said by Mr. Blades to be the production of Machlinia. Of this a photographic reproduction was distributed in the

room.[1] A discussion followed, in which Mr. Bullen, Prof. Mahaffy, Mr. Stevens and Mr. Timmins took part. His Excellency the Lord Lieutenant expressed his pleasure at having been present at a meeting of the Library Association. He was not ashamed to say that he had learned a great deal about the Althorp Library from the Paper that had been read. He did not pretend to the intimate knowledge of the treasures of the library which Lord Charles Bruce possessed, but he did feel that it was one of the proudest possessions that he had inherited, and had always known that a great responsibility rested on him in respect of it. He assured them that it was often a matter of deep regret to him that more advantage was not taken of the permission which his ancestors and himself had always been ready to give to those who wished to visit the library. His Excellency concluded by extending an invitation to all who were then present to visit Althorp, and wishing the Association hearty success in its work.

In the afternoon Mr. Henry Stevens gave an amusing account of his "Twenty Years' Recollections of Panizzi," including reminiscences of a visit to Ireland with Panizzi. Dr. Haughton contributed to the discussion his own recollections of Panizzi.

It was arranged to open the new Free Libraries which have been established in Dublin in connexion with the visit of the Association, and the members accordingly attended at 106, Capel Street, and 22, Thomas Street, where the opening ceremonies were performed under the presidency of the Lord Mayor. Mr. Mullins on behalf of the public library authorities visiting Dublin wished the libraries success, and prophesied that it would speedily be necessary to extend them.

In the evening the Local Committee entertained the Association at dinner. Dr. Ingram was in the chair, and the toast-list included "The Library Association of the United Kingdom," proposed by the Chairman, and responded to by Mr. Henry Bradshaw and Mr. Sam. Timmins; "Our National Libraries," acknowledged by Mr. George Bullen; "Literature and Art," responded to by Dr. R. Garnett and Rev. Dr. Haughton; and "The Chairman," proposed by the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor. Later in the evening the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress received the Association at the Mansion House.

On Thursday morning Dr. Ingram called upon Dr. R. Garnett to read his Paper "On the Use of Photography in Libraries," advocating the establishment of a photographic department at the British Museum, with the view of facilitating the cheap reproduction of important MSS. and Records. The subject led to a long and important discussion, and it was finally decided that a memorial should be presented to Her Majesty's Government in favour of the proposal. Mr. J. D. Mullins read a Paper on "The Less Pleasant Duties of a Librarian," in which he called attention to the necessity of placing some restriction on the promiscuous use of rare works in libraries. This Paper was naturally followed by a lively discussion.

In the afternoon Mr. T. N. Deane, the architect, exhibited and explained the Plans for the New Building for the National Library of Ireland. This building is designed to accommodate 800,000 volumes, and forms a portion only of the new buildings, which are to include a new building for the National Museum. Mr. Henry Bradshaw then read a Paper on "Printing in Ireland," which concluded the day's proceedings.

In the afternoon visits were arranged to the National Library of Ireland, the Royal

[1] The supply having fallen short of the demand, Earl Spencer has been kind enough, at the suggestion of Lord Charles Bruce, to order thirty additional copies to be printed for the Association.

Irish Academy and Marsh's Library. In the evening the President of the Royal Irish Academy, Sir Samuel Ferguson, and Lady Ferguson, received the members of the Association at their residence.

On Friday Mr. H. R. Tedder read a Paper on "The Study of Bibliography," which was followed by an interesting discussion, in which Mr. Bullen, Lord Charles Bruce, Mr. Cowell, Prof. Dowden and Mr. Stevens took part; and the Rev. W. D. Macray read the Paper sent over by Mr. C. W. Holgate on "The Libraries of Australia and Tasmania." In the pressure of business it became necessary for Mr. Archer and Mr. Thomas to withdraw their Papers. The greater part of the day was in the usual course devoted to private business, including the election of officers. A motion was carried altering the proportion of London and country members of Council from ten of each to eight London and twenty country members. As the Hon. Secretary pointed out, it is only fair that the majority should have the larger representation on the Council; and also a resolution that there should be three Special General Council Meetings held during the year, of which a fortnight's previous notice should be given. A proposition to pay the railway fares of country members attending Council Meetings in London was carried by 21 votes to 13. It was agreed to leave the question of a permanent Assistant Secretary to be settled by the Council in London, and a resolution was passed authorizing the necessary expenditure.

A motion was carried on the proposition of Mr. Cowell and the Hon. Sec. expressing a hope that a large number of our members might be able to attend the proposed International Conference in America next year, and that a most successful meeting might be the result.

The usual votes of thanks were then carried to the University authorities, the Lord Mayor and the Municipal authorities, the Local Committee, the Chairman and the Officers. The Rev. the Provost, the Lord Mayor, Mr. Archer and the Town Clerk, as Hon. Secs. of the Local Committee, Dr. Ingram, and the Treasurer and Hon. Sec. acknowledged the votes. Dr. Ingram said that he had always believed and was now more than ever convinced that the Association was doing a most important work by encouraging bibliographical research, by maintaining a high standard of library work, by stimulating the localities it visits, and last, though not least, by promoting the multiplication and improvement of Free Public Libraries. Considering these great services which the Association could render, and was rendering, he said from his heart *Esto perpetua!*—long might it live and flourish to do its great work for the furtherance of culture in all ranks of the community. Mr. Wright then brought forward the concluding business of the meeting, by moving that the next Annual Meeting of the Association be held at Plymouth, and the motion was carried by acclamation.

The Members of the Association were afterwards entertained by the Rev. the Provost and Mrs. Jellett at a garden party, and thus the proceedings of the Seventh Annual Meeting were closed amid the social amenities which throughout so agreeably relieved the severer business which had brought us together.

THE FIRST ENGLISH BOOK ON ANGLING.

III.—THE "TREATYSE OF FYSSHYNGE" PRACTICALLY CONSIDERED.

By Charles Estcourt, F.C.S., F.I.C.

Such brief notice of the design of this work as space will afford, will be devoted more particularly to its character as a practical treatise upon Angling.

Before, however, dealing with this portion of the treatise, it may not be amiss to direct attention to the evidence presented by the little pamphlet of the existence amongst followers of the gentle art of a complete code of morals. A code, as will be admitted by all who peruse this little pamphlet, superior in the present as in the past to any system of morality which does not of necessity include the existence of a Deity.

In the first paragraph is laid down the doctrine that the best sport is that which leaves no bitter thought after its enjoyment.—When proving, from the author's view, that fishing with an angle is the sport *par excellence* which can boast of this quality, she disposes rather summarily (as some think) of the three sports—Hunting, Hawking and Fowling; and praises in equally marked language the sport of Angling. But if even one now extends the argument for and against these sports, it will be found that angling proper still retains (four hundred years later) the identical characteristics claimed for it in the book of St. Albans. It is amusing to observe the brief yet trenchant manner in which the first three sports are treated. Thus says the writer—"Hunting is to my mind too laborious; for the hunter must always run and follow his hounds (evidently horsemen were the exception, not the rule as now), working and sweating sorely, he blows till his lips blister." Hawking is also said to be laborious and hurtful. "For often the falconer loses his hawk, then is his game and sport gone." As to fowling, in the eyes of the writer of the little pamphlet, this sport has least of all to recommend it. Thus in the winter season "the fowler cannot go to his nets and snares because of the cold. At morn-tide in the dew he is wet to the knees and sorely doth he fare." In that day the sport of shooting was unknown, but one may be sure that this sport would have been too dangerous and too laborious for our authoress. With the troubles of an angler she is also concerned, but only to make them appear as blessings in disguise. Thus, "the angler can lose only at most a hook or a line, of which he has a store of his own make if he follows the instructions laid down in the treatise. Other losses he cannot have except it be that he lose a fish after it is hooked, or perhaps the angler may take no fish at all. But if he fail in these points, he shall have at least his wholesome and merry walk at his ease, breathing the sweet scents of the meadow flowers." Then the angler we are told must rise early, which is profitable to man in many ways. The concluding paragraph of the pamphlet contains such a perfect system of laws for the conduct of anglers when enjoying the sport, that it deserves to be reproduced entire, clothed in modern garb, so that it may be read and pondered over by every angler. It may serve us as a fitting end to this preface.

The attentive reader of this brief preface who is familiar with the works of Walton, Cheetham, Venables, Nicholas Cox, and others, written in the seventeenth century, must recognise in the delightful sentiments it contains the originals which inspired all the angler authors mentioned, even from Walton downwards. It is also certain that

he will just as readily recognise the practical instructions conveyed by the little pamphlet as being the foundation of all that has been written upon the subject down even to the present day, and therefore to do justice to this small pamphlet, which is the pith and marrow of all angling works, I will give some examples.

Firstly, then, this treatise contains the rules which practically govern rodmakers now, in the choosing and making a good rod. The kind of wood, the season of the year when it should be cut, and the method of seasoning it, do not differ materially even now. The method of making the hair lines, and the number of hairs to be used for various kinds of fish, are much the same in our day. The methods of dyeing or colouring hairs are valuable even now, as anglers may use most of them for dyeing their gut casts. In the dyeing processes it is apparent that the writer was acquainted with the qualities of many of the dye stuffs in use in the present day, such as the woad or indigo vat, and alum, tannic acid, copperas, walnut juice, &c.

The paragraphs upon hook making are probably now of small practical value, but they serve to show how intimate was the writer's knowledge of many of the industries of the fifteenth century. The tempering and hardening of metals, &c., are given, together with the temperature to be used, and the operations are described as clearly as would be the case in a treatise upon steel and iron in the present day. In the practical hints upon angling we find "The first and principal point in angling is ever to keep away from the water and out of sight of the fish. Either far on the bank or behind a bush, that the fish see you not. For if they do they will not bite. Also look that you shadow not the water, for that is the thing which will fright the fish, and if a fish be affrighted he will not bite." Then on how to strike, not too hard, above the strength of your line. If it is your fortune to hook a big fish on fine tackle, you are told to lead him in the water and work him there till he is drowned. Then the places most favourable for angling and the best time to angle are given in detail, and the distinction made at that day between the use of bait and of the artificial fly is shown. Thus, dubbed hooks are only to be used when the trout, salmon, or grayling leap, the writer recommending bait of various kinds for other times. Then follows a list of twelve artificial flies, two for each fishing month of the year, and here I would direct the attention of the reader to a most serious omission. Whether a portion of this pamphlet was lost or whatever may be the case, no description of the method of dressing artificial flies is given. This omission is so singular in a treatise which gives in detail everything else which could be required, that one cannot but feel that a very valuable portion of the treatise was once in existence and is lost now to anglers. The twelve flies of the treatise are described by Walton in his Complete Angler in the identical language of this litttle pamphlet.

It would be not a little interesting to know why none of the famous angling authors of the 17th century even mentioned this treatise on angling, or indicated the source whence, in the main, they derived their inspiration.

Before concluding, I must call attention to the accurate knowledge displayed of the varieties of fish and their habits. To give one or two examples of them will suffice. Thus says the author :—

"Because the salmon is the most stately fish that a man may angle for in fresh water, therefore I purpose to begin with him. The salmon is a gentyll fish but he is difficult to take. For common-ly he is found only in deep places of great rivers and for the most part in the middle of them, so that one cannot readily come at him. He is in season from March to Michaelmas."

After describing the worms, &c., to be used, she says :—

"You may also take him, but it is seldom done, with a fly at such time as he leapeth, in the same way as you would take a trout or grayling."

"The trout for the reason he is a right dainty fish and also a right fervent biter shall be next mentioned. He is in season from March to Michaelmas. He is found on a clean gravelly ground and in a stream. You may angle for him at all times with a ground line lying or running, except in leaping time, and then use a dubbed hook."

"The grayling also called umber is a delicious fish for man's eating. He may be taken as you take trout."

"The pike is a good fish, but as he devours so many fish, of his own kind as readily as any others, I love him the less so to take him you shall do this."

Here follows a description of baiting the hook for pike with frog or fresh herring.

Fitly to conclude these remarks we give the last paragraph of this work :—

"Here followeth the order made to all those shall have the understanding of the aforesaid treatise and use it for their pleasures.

"You that can angle and take fish to your pleasures as this forsaid treatise teacheth and showeth you I charge and require you in the name of all noble men that you fish not in any poor man's several water, such as his pond, stew, or other places in which to keep fish without his leave and goodwill.

"Nor that you use not to break any man's nets set in their weir or other such places. Nor to take the fish away which are in such nets. For after a fish is taken in a man's net if the net be laid in the common waters or else in such waters as he hires the fish are his property. And if you take it away you rob him which is a right shameful deed for any noble man to do and which only thieves and rogues do who when taken are punished for their evil deeds by hanging or otherwise.

"And also if you do as this treatise teaches you you shall not need to take of other men, for you shall have enough of your own taking if you like to labour for them which shall be to you a great pleasure to see the fair bright shining scaled fishes deceived by your crafty means and drawn to the bank.

"Also that you break no eggs in going about your sports nor open no man's gates and neglect to shut them again. Also you shall not use the forsaid crafty sport for covetousness to the increase and sparing of your money only, but principally for your solace and for the health of your body and also of your soul. For when you purpose to go fishing you will not desire to have many persons with you which might spoil your sport. And then you may serve God devoutly, in saying lovingly your accustomed prayer. And thus doing you shall eschew and avoid many vices as idleness which is the principal cause inducing to other vices as is right well known.

"Also you shall not be too greedy in taking your said game, as too much at one time, which you may easily do if you follow in every point what this treatise teaches you thus destroying your own sport and other men's also. So when you have a sufficient catch you shall take no more at that time. Also you shall aid in nourishing the game in all ways you can and destroy all such things as are devourers of it."

THE RATING OF FREE PUBLIC LIBRARIES.

By J. K. Waite, *Librarian, Free Public Library, Bolton.*

As the question of *Rating* of Public Libraries has been frequently under discussion, and as the general feeling against it was so strongly expressed at the Conference of Free Library authorities, held in Manchester, that they decided that a clause should be introduced into the new "Free Libraries Bill" "exempting Libraries and Museums

from the liability to all local rates, on the ground that such institutions were not carried on for purposes of pecuniary profit.

But this question has been recently brought before the Library Committee of the town of Bolton, in a very tangible form, by the Overseers raising the assessment of the Public Library from the nominal value of £30 per annum, at which it has stood for many years, to that of £120, the full rental value, on the ground that "no distinction should be made between public and private property." My committee authorized me to make enquiries from the Public Libraries of other large towns, as to whether they were subject to similar treatment. Consequently I sent out about eighty circulars, of which the following is a copy of the *queries* submitted:—"Free Library of —— (1). Is your Public Free Library charged with any parochial or other rate? (2). If rated, is the charge made upon the full, or any other, and what proportion of the rateable value? (3). If not rated or only partially rated upon what ground is the exemption allowed?" And the result I have tabulated for reference below. 24 were *not* rated at all, 4 were only nominally rated, and 19 were rated almost to the full amount; the remainder have not thought fit to answer my enquiries. Several of the Libraries were exempt under the Scientific Societies Act, 6 & 7 Vic., of which the following is a summary:—"From and after the first of October, 1843, it is declared that no persons shall be assessed or liable to pay any county, borough, parochial, or other local rates or cesses, in respect of any land, houses, or buildings, or parts of houses or buildings, belonging to any *Society* instituted for purposes of *Science*, *Literature* or the *Fine Arts*, exclusively, either as tenant or as owners, and occupied by it for the transaction of its business and for carrying into effect its purposes, provided that such Society shall be supported, wholly or in part, by any annual voluntary contributions, and shall not, and by its laws may not, make any dividend, gift or bonus in money unto or between any of its members, and provided also that such Society shall obtain the certificate of the barrister-at-law or Lord Advocate as therein mentioned; but before any such Society can be entitled to the benefit of this Act they must cause *three* copies of the rules of management to be submitted to the Registrar of Friendly Societies, who shall certify in each of the copies if the Society is entitled to the benefit of this Act, or state his reasons if the certificate is withheld. One of the certified copies is to be returned to the Society, one retained by the Registrar, and the third forwarded to the Clerk of the Peace for confirmation at the Sessions, such copy to be filed with the rolls without any *fee*."

I may say that we appealed against the assessment, and our Deputy Town Clerk urged the provisions of the above Act as a ground for exemption, and promised that the rules should be registered under the Friendly Societies Act as above required.

The Clerk of the Union replied that by the 39 & 40 Vic., cap. 61, all municipal property was subject to be assessed to the relief of the poor, and the case was adjourned for some time for further consideration, and it was finally decided that we should pay on the nominal valuation as heretofore.

Now as Free Libraries are not overblessed with large incomes, and their expenditure gradually increasing, in consequence of the much greater use that is now made of them, I think it behoves all interested in their progress to urge the passing of some provision to liberate such institutions from such *impositions*.

FREE LIBRARY of—	1. *Is your Public Free Library charged with any Parochial or other Rate?*	2. *If rated, is the charge made upon the full, or any other, and what proportion of the rateable value?*	3. *If not rated or only partially rated upon what ground is the exemption allowed?*
Airdrie	Yes.	On the rental.	
Aston	Yes.	On full amount on Parish and County Rate.	
Blackburn	No.	.....	Because Buildings (special) for such purposes are exempt.
Bolton	Yes.	Nominal until this year.	Corporation appealing against it, as an Educational Institution.
Bristol	Yes. Poor's Rate and Sanitary.	On two-thirds of gross rental.	
Cambridge	No.	.....	Under the "Award Act" all Municipal Buildings are exempted.
Cardiff	Yes. With all Rates.	We pay £300. per annum rent and are as-	
Chester	Yes. Poor Rate.	On £42. 10s. full. [sessed at £87. 10s.	
Clitheroe	No.	.....	It is a part of the Town Hall.
Coventry	No. Not charged with any Local Rates.	.....	Exemption granted by the Registrar of Friendly Societies.
Darlaston	Yes. Both Poor and General District Rate.	On the full.	
Darwen	Yes. The Building is rented and rated.	On Borough and Poor's Rate.	
Derby	No.	.....	Under the 6 & 7 Victoria, cap. 36.
Doncaster	No. We pay no Rates.		
Dundalk	No.	.....	Part of the Town Hall. Rental £25., but no rates whatever.
Dundee	Yes. We pay Poor's Rate as Proprietors and	On 20 per cent. less than full rateable value.	
Exeter	None. [Tenants.	.....	It has been decided that under the "Free Libraries Act" the Institution
Galashiels	Yes. All Local Rates.	On three-fourths of annual value.	[is not liable, as it is supported by a rate.
Hereford	No.	.....	Only assessed on Librarian's apartments.
Heywood	Yes.	On the full rateable value.	
Leeds	Yes. With the usual Rates.	Rent £200. per annum, assessed at £173. 5s.	
Leicester	Yes.	Assessment on three-fourths of full value.	
Liverpool	Yes. Charged with all Rates.	Only nominal in amount, viz. on £100.	Being a Public Institution from which no profit is derived.
Macclesfield	Not rated.		
Manchester	No.	.....	By the provisions of a "Local Act."
Newcastle-on-Tyne	No.	.....	Exempted by law, Vict. 6 & 7, chap. 36.
Newport	No.	.....	The law is not clear, and we have had the benefit of the doubt.
Northampton	Yes. With Poor and General District Rate.	On £50. only.	A part of the Guildhall.
Norwich	No.	.....	By a Local Act, which exempts *all* Corporation property.
Nottingham	Yes. Included in University Coll. Buildings.	.....	Corporation appealing against it, as an Educational Institution.
Oxford	No.	.....	Exempt by special Act of Parliament.
Paisley	Yes.	On full value.	
Plymouth	No.	.....	Registered under the Friendly Societies Act, two years ago.
Rochdale	No.		
Salford	Yes. On Poor's and District Rate.	On full rateable value, £200.	No exemption.
Sheffield	No.	.....	See Scientific Societies (Exemption from Rates) Act, 6 & 7 Vict., 36.
Southport	No.	.....	Cannot say why.
South Shields	Yes. Poor's Rate.	Assessed at £86., rated at £70.	Much below the actual value. No explanation can be obtained.
St. Helens	Yes. Included in the rent.	.....	A part of the Town Hall, which is charged full Parochial and Borough
Stockport	No.	.....	Corporation property. Question never raised. [Rate.
Sunderland	Yes. On Borough and District Rate.	Four-fifths of annual value.	
Swansea	No. On Water Rate only.	1s. in the pound.	Never enquired as to the ground of exemption.
Tynemouth	No. Only £10. for Librarian's rooms.	Charged £70. in Income Tax and Inhabited	Exempted under 6 & 7 Vict., c. 36, by the Overseers.
Walsall	Yes. To the Poor's Rate.	On the full rateable value. [House Duty.	
Warwick	Yes. Parochial and General District Rate.	On the usual assessment.	
Wednesbury	No.		
West Bromwich	No.	.....	Exempt under 6 & 7 Vict., chap. 36.
Wolverhampton	No.	.....	Exempt on the ground that it is devoted to Literary and Scientific purposes.

RICHARD DE BURY AND HIS EDITORS. II.

By Ernest C. Thomas.

Before proceeding with the examination of some of the more important passages in which improvement is specially needed, I must refer again to a passage discussed in the last number.[1] In speaking of a difficult place in the fourth chapter[2] I proposed to read "alteriusque Lazari," instead of "et utriusque Lazari." I confess that I attached no meaning to the latter reading; and assumed that the corrupt reading "utriusque lateris" was due to an attempt to make sense of an unintelligible passage. As to that indeed there is probably no doubt; for this is the most obvious explanation of the various readings in the passage. And thus again we find in one latish but good MS. (for the use of which I am indebted to Mr. Sam. Timmins), the reading *et ulcerum Lazari*. Mr. E. B. Nicholson and Mr. Falconer Madan have, however, written to me (quite independently of each other), to suggest that the "utriusque" of the MSS., is right, and that it refers to the two Lazaruses mentioned in the New Testament—one afflicted with putrefying sores, the other decaying in the grave. And Mr. Nicholson adds: "Horum quem canes saliva liniebant spectat illud 'qui cedri resina nos liniat,' quem Iesus ex sepulcro revocavit illud 'vel qui quatriduano, etc.'" This suggestion is certainly ingenious, and for the present, therefore, I withdraw my suggested change, lest I be found committing that worst fault of an editor, finding a fault where fault is none.

Mr. Madan thinks again that there is probably no real difficulty about "a sub." Here I am not quite convinced, however, by his analogy of the *ab ante* which accounts for the French *avant*. Mr. Bradshaw had already been good enough to remind me of "*ab extra* and similar compounds." But the difficulty seems to me to lie not altogether in the phrase *a sub* in itself; but in the curiously barbarous and inelegant ending of the sentence—"decidit et fit a sub." De Bury's style is indeed not exactly elegant; but it is a literary and even a laboured style, and the turn of the sentence seems to me to be utterly unlike his general carefulness—by which I do not mean fastidiousness—in the use of words. Then there is the difficulty of the readings: Asub, assub, and Assub. No doubt the copyists may have blundered over the phrase; but James surely should have known what he was about, and I should very much like to know why he retained the reading "assub." I was at one time inclined to conjecture "decidit *in abyssum*," as De Bury seems to have been fond of this phrase (comp. ch. x, decidunt in abyssum: ch. xx, dejiciat in abyssum): but the change is perhaps too violent.

I propose now to refer to a passage in chap. vii., which the punctuation of the editors shows that they have greatly misunderstood. It presents, moreover, at least one difficulty which M. Cocheris and Mr. Inglis have found insuperable. The passage forms part of a long enumeration of books and sciences which have perished by reason of wars, of which I quote only so much as is necessary for our present purpose. "Ægyptiorum religio, quam liber Logostaliosiæ commendat egregie polios veterum Athenarum; quæ cum millibus annorum Athenis Græciæ præcesserunt carmina, Chaldæorum considerationes, Arabum et Indorum ceremoniæ, Judæorum architecta, Babyloniorum Noe georgica . . . . incendiis creduntur sublata." Cocheris' translation

[1] See p. 148. [2] See p. 153.

of this passage is worthy of the punctuation: "La religion des Egyptiens que recommande le livre Logostalios de cette admirable république de la vieille Athènes; les observations des Chaldéens qui ont précédé de plusieurs milliers d'années les poésies grecques d'Athènes; les cérémonies des Arabes et des Indiens; les traités d'architecture des Juifs; l'agriculture transmise par Noé aux Babyloniens . . . . sont regardés comme ayant été perdus." And Hand partly deserts Inglis to follow Cocheris, translating: "The religion of the Egyptians which the book Logostalios taught to the excellent republic of old Athens; the songs of Greece which were composed thousands of years before Athens." What a precious hash this makes of things! But the MSS. enable us to restore "egregia politia" for the unintelligible "egregie polios," and whatever we read, the slightest consideration will show us that the punctuation must be as it is understood by Inglis—so that the passage enumerates: the religion of the Egyptians; the polity of the ancient Athens, which preceded the other by 9000 years (the best MSS. reading not *cum* but *novem*); the carmina of the Chaldeans; the astronomy of the Arabs and Indians; the ceremonies of the Jews; the architecture of the Babylonians; and the agriculture of Noah. In one respect, indeed, Inglis is wrong—his explanation of the unintelligible "Logostaliosiae." This, says Inglis, must mean the lost book of Varro called Logistoricus; while Cocheris, though translating it as we have seen, would like to explain it as "Logos Tales (*sic*)" for λογος θαλετις (*sic*). All the MSS., however, read Logostilios or Logostilius sic: and it is plain that the reference is to the lost Greek treatise of the mythical Hermes Trismegistus, extant only in the Latin translation of Apuleius, which is called Λόγος τέλειος, or as S. Augustine translates it *Verbum Perfectum.*

In the sixth chapter he makes books complain that the clergy care nothing for them—"excepto quod quibusdam quaternis parvi valoris insistunt de quibus *Hiberas venias* et apocrypha deliramenta producunt, etc." I quote the text as printed by James, and the best MSS. agree with him. But *venias* makes no sense, and I cannot imagine what James supposed it to mean. Some of the printed texts correct *venias* to *naenias*, but omit Hiberas. The difficulty is cleared-up by a passage which occurs at least twice in S. Jerome, who speaking of the ignorance of some people, says "apocryphorum deliramenta sectantur et Hiberas naenias libris authenticis præferunt," referring, as is usually explained, to the errors of certain heretics in Spain.

There are many passages in De Bury which may be corrected in a similar way, by a simple reference to the original sources. Thus in the ninth chapter all the texts make De Bury write, quoting from Valerius Maximus: "Et Socrates 94 agens nobilissimum librum scripsit." Now Socrates is recorded to have died at the age of sixty, and is always said to have written nothing. These facts alone should have excited an Editor's suspicion; but De Bury expressly cites Valerius by book and chapter, and yet none of the Editors seem to have taken the trouble to consult the original. There they would have found that Valerius really wrote not "Et Socrates" but "Isocrates," who is known of course to have lived and continued writing to a great age. A still more striking instance perhaps of ignorance or carelessness occurs in the eighth chapter where De Bury tells us how everything that was written anywhere was sure to find its way to him: hoc statim nostris recens infundebatur auditibus (*al.* auribus) nullo denigratum semini verbo nulloque nugace corruptum. So the passage is printed by James; Cocheris and some of the earlier texts print: nullo denigratum semi verbio,

nulla nugacitate corruptum. As Inglis translates; "this, while recent, was poured into our ears not mystified by *imperfect narration* nor corrupted by absurdity." What James meant by printing "seminiverbo" I cannot guess; nor does it seem to have occured to any of the Editors that the right reading is *seminiverbio*—from *seminiverbius*, the Vulgate rendering of the Greek σπερμολόγος, which occurs in the *Acts of the Apostles* (xvii. 18).

Considerable difficulty is presented by the name of a philosopher who is mentioned in two separate passages as *Crato* (chh. i and xiii). In each case the phrase is "Cratonis cathedra;" in the one place the phrase is coupled with the "ideæ Platonis," and in the other he seems also to be referred to as the typical philosopher. In the former case one at least of the better MSS. reads *Catonis*, and no correction could be more obvious. It would be easy enough to produce hundreds of passages to show that throughout mediæval times Cato is the accepted type of the philosopher. But for that very reason it is difficult to understand how "Catonis" could have been altered to "Cratonis" in nearly all the best MSS. There was a philosopher called "Crato" under Nerva, of whom a curious story is told in Vincent of Beauvais[1] that he was converted to Christianity by S. John. But he appears to have been otherwise so little important, and so little is recorded of him, that it is difficult to imagine him to have been in De Bury's mind in these passages. In the same way neither Crates nor Crantor satisfies the requirements of the passage, though the former is mentioned in John of Salisbury,[2] and the latter would be familiar enough through the well-known line of Horace.

In a very curious passage in the seventeenth chapter where De Bury pathetically mourns over the bad treatment of books by careless and untidy scholars, the editors have found an unnecessary difficulty: "Videbis fortasse juvenem cervicosum in studio segniter residentem, et dum hiberno tempore hiems alget, nasus irriguus frigore comprimente distillat, nec prius se dignatur emunctorio tergere quam subjectum librum madefecerit turpi rore. . . . Unguem habet fimo fætente refertum *giganti* simillimum, quo placentis materiæ signat locum." Here Inglis translates, "He has a nail like a giant's," and Cocheris "Il a un ongle de géant." The best MSS. read *gagati*, and at first sight I was inclined to conjecture *cacati*, which, despite its unpleasantness, seemed to agree well enough with the following words; and I was much amused when I found some time afterwards that the Spires editor had made the conjecture before me. By that time I had myself abandoned it, because I found, on looking a little further, that *gagati* itself gives an excellent sense, for *gagates* is a perfectly good Plinian word, meaning "jet." The Bishop living in Durham was doubtless familiar enough with Whitby jet, but it may have been unknown in Cologne and Spires, and so the editors found the word a difficulty.

Finally, in a passage which I have already mentioned above[3] as having puzzled the Spires editor, occurs a word which has equally troubled all the editors since. The passage has been commonly printed: "Quot Euclides discipulos rejecit *Ellefuga* quasi scopulus eminens et abruptus qui nullo scholarium suffragio scandi posset." The good MSS. vary between *Elefuga*, *Elifuga*, and *Eleofuga:* but no editor has ever been able

1 Speculum historiale, X. xxxix.

2 Of the indebtedness of De Bury to John of Salisbury I propose to speak on another occasion. It was very considerable.

3 See p. 149, foot.

to explain what the word means. Cocheris leaves it quite alone, saying the copyists must have blundered. Inglis refers it to the classical story of Phrixus and Helle's flight upon the ram, when Helle's fatal fall is fabled to have given its name to the Hellespont: translating, "How many scholars has the Helleflight of Euclid repelled, as if it were a high and steep cliff that could not be scaled." Inglis writes, indeed, in his notes: "This word was a *pons asinorum* to some good Grecians—but that is probably its meaning; at least, making it the name of a problem gets over all difficulty." Then he goes on, as I understand him, to suggest that the true reading may be Dulcarnon, which is a barbarous mediæval name of the 47th proposition of Euclid. Inglis's guess, which is indeed a pretty obvious guess to make, comes very near the truth; but I believe I am the first to point out that there is actual MS. evidence still extant as to the meaning of the word in mediæval times. In Roger Bacon's *Opus Tertium*, a work of course of the twelfth century, occurs a passage in which he writes: "Isti qui ignorant utilitatem alicujus scientiæ, ut sit geometriæ, statim, nisi pueri qui coguntur per virgam, resiliunt et tepescunt et vix volunt tres vel quatuor propositiones scire, unde ex hoc accidit quod quinta propositio geometriæ Euclidis dicitur Elefuga, id est fuga miserorum; elegia enim Græce dicitur Latine miseria, et elegi sunt miseri." This is sufficiently conclusive as to the meaning of the word; though its explanation may be inaccurate. The word *Elefuga* looks as though it might have come from the Arabic; and the suggestion perhaps derives some slight support from the word Dulcarnon. This is usually explained, as for instance in a gloss on Neckam in his *De Naturis Rerum* as = δουλία carnis—referring to the sacrifice said to have been made by Pythagoras on solving the 47th proposition. But the learned Selden in discussing the lines in Chaucer's Troilus,

> "I am till God me better mind send
> At dulcarnon right at my wits' end,

says that the word was derived from an "Arabic term signifying 'two-horned,' which the Mahometan Arabians use for a root in calculation."

But I must not weary those who have been good enough to follow me thus far. These are but a very few passages taken at random from a large number of cases in which examination of the MSS. or a closer study of the subject-matter has enabled me to introduce improvements or offer explanations of De Bury's text. In another article I hope to present my readers with some account of the manuscripts which must form the basis of that thorough reconstruction of the printed text which is necessary before we can be said to have the good Bishop's work before us as it left its writer's hands.

The Library Chronicle.

The LIBRARY CHRONICLE *is issued on the 15th of the month, and communications, books for review, etc., intended for the forthcoming number should be addressed, not later than the 10th of the month, to the Hon. Editor,* ERNEST C. THOMAS, *care of Messrs. J. Davy & Sons, 137, Long Acre, W.C.*

The attention of librarians and library committees, of publishers and booksellers, is called to the advantages of the CHRONICLE *(which represents at least 250 libraries) as an advertising medium. Advertisements of Library Vacancies, and of Books Wanted, or Duplicates for Sale or Exchange by Libraries are inserted at low rates.*

Members of the Library Association whose subscription for the current year has been paid are entitled to receive the CHRONICLE.

The Library Association cannot be responsible for the views expressed by the contributors to the CHRONICLE.

The Library Association.

The result of the Election of Officers for the year 1884-5, was as follows :—

President: [No nomination]. Vice-Presidents: E. A. Bond, G. Bullen, Chancellor Christie, J. T. Clark, P. Cowell, Earl of Crawford and Balcarres, J. D. Mullins, Very Rev. Dr. Reeves, J. Small, C. W. Sutton, Samuel Timmins, E. Tonks. Members of Council, London: J. B. Bailey, J. W. Bone, W. R. Douthwaite, R. Garnett, Henry Stevens, H. R. Tedder, E. M. Thompson, H. B. Wheatley.

Country: W. Archer, F. T. Barrett, J. P. Briscoe, H. T. Folkard, W. J. Haggerston, J. Y. W. MacAlister, Rev. W. D. Macray, C. Madeley, W. May, C. E. Scarse, W. H. K. Wright, J. Yates. Treasurer: R. Harrison. Hon. Secretary: E. C. Thomas.

The following resolutions were passed by the Annual Meeting at Dublin :—

"That a memorial be presented to Her Majesty's Government, urging the great necessity of making by means of photography copies of Parish Registers and other important documents whether printed or manuscript, books, pamphlets, &c., in public libraries in order that the public may be secured from the serious consequences of the loss of such documents, &c., and further, may be supplied with copies of the same at a reasonable price."

"That the Council prepare, and the President be requested to sign, such memorial on behalf of the present meeting, and that members of the Association be requested to use their influence with Members of Parliament in its support."

"That this Annual Meeting of the Library Association of the United Kingdom express their hope that a large number of our members may be able to attend the proposed International Conference next year, and that a most successful meeting may be the result."

"That in Article 9 of the Constitution the words "twenty others, of whom ten shall be London and ten country members," be substituted for the words "twenty others, of whom twelve shall be London and eight country members."

"That not less than three Special General Council Meetings shall be held in London during the year, of which a fortnight's previous notice shall be given."

"In order to facilitate the attendance of Country Members of Council at the Council Meetings it is hereby resolved that they be allowed third-class return railway fares out of the funds of the Association."

"That the Council be requested to consider the desirability of so enlarging the scope of this Association as to include officers connected with Museums and Art-galleries."

Library Echoes.

The success of the Dublin Meeting must have more than satisfied the expectations of those who were most confident on the subject. It is becoming a common-place with us year by year that we can never hope to surpass the meeting of each year: yet each year continues to surpass the last.

Nobody can have thought it possible to have a more enjoyable meeting than we had at Cambridge. Nobody could have expected a more successful gathering than our meeting at Liverpool. Yet the Dublin meeting contrived to combine the attrac-

tions of Cambridge and Liverpool, and in a certain sense to surpass them both.

After all, this is perhaps only what we should expect: for while we retain our old friends, we continue to make new friends in each place we visit, and each year the importance and interest of our work should naturally increase.

Our meeting at Dublin was bound to be successful: for we had as our President and Chairman one who was described to us by those who ought to know, as "the most popular man in Ireland." But the way in which our Irish friends rallied around Dr. Ingram to contribute to the warmth and enjoyableness of our meeting, must have surprised everybody.

Our thanks are especially due to the Local Committee, to the Authorities of Trinity College and the Library Staff, to the Lord Mayor, to Sir Samuel and Lady Ferguson, but above all to Dr. Ingram and Mr. Archer for their unremitting efforts in our behalf.

At none of our Annual Meetings have we secured the attendance of so many local friends. Apart from the accession of new members from this side of the water, no less than 113 Members and Associates joined us in Ireland.

Not the least interesting feature of our Meeting was the opening of the Free Libraries at Dublin. Previously the only library at work under the Libraries Acts in Ireland was that at Dundalk. The Acts have been adopted at Belfast, and now libraries have been opened in Dublin.

Next year we shall meet at Plymouth; and we are glad to learn from Mr. Wright that this announcement has been well received there. We are sure that no exertions will be wanting on the part of Mr. Wright to secure a good Meeting.

EDITOR.

Library Notes and News.

HOME.

ABERDEEN.—A meeting of the Committee of the Public Library was held on October 13, for the purpose of appointing a librarian. The number of candidates was 123, from which number a short leet of six was selected by a sub-committee, to which one name was added by the Committee. Upon submitting their names to the meeting, Mr. A. W. Robertson, Assistant-librarian in the University Library, was appointed to the office.

ARBROATH.—We regret to record the death of Mr. Thomas Mason, Librarian of the Public Library and Curator of the Museum, at the age of 56. For some years before his appointment to the librarianship of the Public Library in 1875, he had been librarian of the library for working-men in connexion with the Scottish North Eastern Railway Company. Mr. Mason's death took place on Aug. 15.

BRADFORD.—Mr. C. G. Virgo, Librarian and Curator of the Public Free Libraries, has resigned his post at Bradford in order to accept the Curatorship of the Queen's Park Museum, Manchester. For the present, Mr. Butler Wood will have charge of the Libraries, and Mr. H. L. Davies of the Art Museum at Bradford.

CHELTENHAM.—The Public Library was opened on the 13th inst. by the Mayor in temporary premises. His Worship delivered an address, in which he referred to the need of a permanent building, and asked for assistance in aid of the rate. The rate is estimated to yield over £1000 per annum.

HUDDERSFIELD.—On September 16, the Mayor of Huddersfield announced to a deputation, which had waited upon the General Purposes Committee of the Corporation in reference to the proposal to establish a free library, that Mr. Joseph Crosland, of Royds Wood, has expressed his intention of offering a donation of £5,000 towards that object, provided that a satisfactory scheme could be devised and carried out by subscriptions.

LEIGH.—The Leigh Literary Society, which is actively engaged in the promotion of science classes, lectures, &c., is forming the nucleus of a reference library, to be

handed over to the Local Board whenever that body considers the time ripe for the adoption of the Public Libraries Acts.

MANCHESTER: CHETHAM LIBRARY.—It was recently announced by Mr. H. H. Howorth (who has been appointed a Feoffee of the Chetham Hospital in succession to Mr. James Crossley), at a meeting of the Lancashire and Cheshire Antiquarian Society "that the Feoffees have decided in future to develope the Chetham Library in the special direction of History and Archæology."

OXFORD.—Mr. Edwin Wallace, Fellow and Librarian of Worcester College, died on Oct. 8. To Mr. Wallace is due the specialisation of the College Library in Classical Archæology, and he prepared a printed catalogue of its collection on this subject. He was a member of the first London Conference of Librarians.

Mr. James Hamilton Wylie, one of Her Majesty's Inspectors of Schools, thus dedicates the first volume of his new History of England under Henry IV (Longmans, 1884): "I dedicate this volume with gratitude to the memory of Humphrey Chetham, fustian merchant, and founder of the first Free Library at Manchester, who died A.D. 1653. I have spent many profitable hours in the companionship of his books, and in the quiet seclusion of the venerable College, preserved to us as a relic of the Lancastrian age, through his enlightened liberality."

FOREIGN.

COLOGNE.—The incorporation of the Jesuitenbibliothek, which contains about 35,000 volumes, with the Stadtbibliothek, has been voted by the city authorities and approved by the Minister of Public Instruction. The present librarian of the Jesuitenbibliothek, Prof. Düntzer, will retire when the change is effected.

LINCOLN, MASS.—On Aug. 5 the new Public Library was opened. The Library is the gift of Mr. G. Grosvenor Tarbell, a native of the town.

MONTREAL.—At the final sitting on Sept. 3rd of the Meeting of the British Association at Montreal, Sir Richard Temple and Prof. Boyd Dawkins moved a resolution expressing cordial sympathy with the movement for the establishment of a Public Library, to properly mark the occasion of the first meeting of the Association in Canada, and urged the members of the Association to aid the project. It was announced that a gentleman of Montreal had started the scheme by a promise to give $50,000. A page of the Montreal Star on Sept. 6th was devoted to letters from distinguished men in favour of the scheme, written in answer to a circular issued by the editor.

PARIS: BIBLIOTHÈQUE NATIONALE.—M. Drumont has called attention in *La Liberté* to the inadequacy of the sum allotted to the Bibliothèque Nationale for the purchase of books, which is only 80,000 francs.

PARIS: BIBLIOTHÈQUES SCOLAIRES.—According to *Le Livre* the number of these libraries on the 1st Jan. 1884, was 28,845, and they included 3,161,000 volumes. The number of "Bibliothèques Pédagogiques" at the same date was 2,450, including 663,878 volumes.

The September number of the *Library Journal* contains an article by Mr. W. E. Foster on "The Young Writer's Use of a Library," and reprints our Examination Scheme.

The October number of Dr. Petzholdt's *Anzeiger* contains articles on the newspaper published at Göttingen (*Göttinger Zeitungen*), an article on the library of the Franciscan Monastery at Ragusa, and a chronological list of English and American writers on stenography, reprinted from the Circular of the U.S. Bureau of Education.

The double number of the *Centralblatt für Bibliothekswesen* for Sept.—Oct. contains an article by K. K. Müller, extending to *eighty* pages, on "Janos Laskaris and the Medicean Library," of which we hope to say something in another number. A. Graesel has an appreciative notice of the Report of the Proceedings of the American Library Association at Buffalo.

Library Catalogues and Reports.

Bibliography: or Books about Books, their Making, &c., including Alphabets, Bookbinding, Copyright, Ink, Libraries, Newspapers, Periodical, Printing, Writing, forming part of the Reference Library of Birmingham Free Library. Catalogued by J. D. Mullins. Birmingham, 1884. 4to, pp. xii. 128-172.

An exceedingly full and useful list, including nearly 4,000 books and pamphlets on the subjects enumerated in the table. The arrangement is to collect the books alphabetically under author's names, followed by a separate arrangement under the headings of "Pamphlets on Books, Libraries, &c.," "Library Catalogues," "Booksellers' Catalogues," and "Sale Catalogues." These form Part I; while Part II includes books on "Bookbinding," "Copyright," "Ink, Paper and Pens," "Printing," "Specimens of Printing," "Writing, &c."

Catalogue of the Halifax Public Library. Lending and Reference Departments. Halifax, 1882. 4to, pp. 429.

An alphabetical index catalogue of the Lending and Reference Departments together, the books in the latter section being indicated by the letter *R*. It is in two parts, Part I, comprising Fiction and Juvenile Literature, having been first prepared for separate issue. The contents of periodical and collectaneous literature are set out, and the catalogue "enumerates the authors and subjects of upwards of twenty-five thousand volumes, and contains at the least one hundred thousand references." The catalogue is clearly printed in double columns.

Boston, Mass. Thirty-second Annual Report of the Trustees of the Public Library, 1884. [Boston, June 25, 1884.] 8vo, pp. 66.

The number of vols. in all the collections has reached a total of 438,594, a net increase for the year of 16,478. The total issue of books for the year was 1,056,906, an increase of 11,004 over the previous year. Of these issues 184,913 were at the central establishment at Bates Hall, 314,423 from the three popular libraries in the City, and 557,570 from the seven district branches. Besides, the delivery of periodicals amounted to 541,738. The Trustees have invited plans for a new building. The Reports of the Examining Committee and Librarian are added with the usual appendices. The falling off in the circulation at most of the branches is attributed to the policy of not supplying duplicate works of fiction, the result of which is, however, an increase in the percentage of reading in other departments. The appropriation from the City funds was $124,000; the income from endowments $6,980.

Runcorn. Second Annual Report of the Committee of the Runcorn Free Public Library, 1883-4, 1864. 8vo, pp. 8.

As is not unusual in the second year of the working of a Free Library, the issues at Runcorn show a decrease upon the first year. They were in the first year 16,259, and in the second 14,386. In the Reference department, which has been open seven months, the issues were 549. The number of vols. now in the library is 2,431. The Reading-room was opened in November last, and has been well attended. The rate produced £172 4s. 7d., and the expenditure was £217 10s. 8d., the year closing with a balance in hand of £30 16s. 3d.

Rochdale. Thirteenth Annual Report of the Committee of the Free Public Library of the Borough of Rochdale, for the year ending March 31st, 1884. Rochdale. 8vo, pp. 9.

In consequence of the fire which occurred at the Town Hall in April of last year, the Library was closed for a long time. The Reference department was open only 8 days, and the Lending department 142 days. The daily average of issues from the latter department was 362,58 vols., "which is quite as large as at any time since the Library was established." The stock of books was increased by 1,528 vols., making the total stock, exclusive of patents, 34,510 vols. A new building was begun and will be opened soon.

At a meeting of the Galashiels Free Library Committee, held on Aug. 25th, the Report of the Librarian was read. The issues for 1883-4 were 18,042, an increase of 1,163 on the previous year. 156 volumes were added during the year. The assessment was £216, and the total income £235, which just balanced the expenditure.

Record of Bibliography and Library Literature.

A Forgotten Genius: Charles Whitehead. A Critical Monograph. By H. T. Mackenzie Bell. London: Elliot Stock, 1884. 8vo, pp. x, 297.

An account of the Life, such as it was, and the Writings, some of them clever enough, of Charles Whitehead, the author of "Richard Savage," would furnish a Magazine or Review article, but is only made to occupy a volume with the help of a good deal of unnecessary and not always discriminating eulogy. Chap. I is entitled "Critical and Bibliographical," and a "Chronological and Bibliographical Table" concludes the volume, but the bibliography is hardly such as to deserve the name.

An Essay towards a Bibliography of Marlowe's "Tragical History of Dr. Faustus." Compiled by William Heinemann. London: Elliot Stock, 1884. 16mo, pp. 30.

This little reprint furnishes a very interesting contribution to bibliography, upon which Mr. Heinemann has evidently bestowed much pains. But his printer has hardly done him justice; and misprints are nowhere so inexcusable as in bibliography.

A Brief Handbook of American Authors. By Oscar Fay Adams. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin and Co., 1884. 16mo, pp. x, 188. Price 75 cents.

This little book professes to furnish for general readers a more or less extended notice of most of the persons known to American literature. In a few words, it indicates the kind of literature cultivated by each author, his chief works, and the name of his publishers. But in point of bibliographical detail it is very defective.

We have received from Mr. J. P. Edmond Part III of his useful and beautifully printed book on "The Aberdeen Printers," which comes down to 1736. Part IV will include "works heard of too late for insertion in their chronological order," with historical notices and indices. Mr. Edmond has also issued a hand-list of *desiderata*, or books as to which he would like to receive information.

Mr. C. W. Sutton's "Manchester Bibliography for 1883," reprinted from the *Manchester Quarterly* for October, records a higher number of works than any recorded in previous years. The number of books here recorded, with Mr. Sutton's usual care, is 591 as compared with 441 for the year 1882.

Sir Thomas Baker, the Chairman of the Manchester Free Library Committee, has in his recently published "Memorials of a Dissenting Chapel," given us an excellent history of a place of worship round which cluster memories of events and people of more than ordinary interest. His biographical notices, which are evidently the result of considerable research, are models of conciseness. They are followed by a bibliography of books, sermons and pamphlets by ministers of the Chapel, or otherwise connected with the Congregation or circumstances commemorated in these Memorials. The author concludes by stating that he has placed in the Manchester Public Free Reference Library "such of the Sermons, Tracts and other works as he possessed which supplied him with the materials for this volume, and which were not already in the library."

The October number of the *Bibliographer* concludes its reprint of the American translation of "the Fortsas Catalogue," which we have already mentioned as being reproduced from the New York *Philobiblion* without proper acknowledgment. This kind of "supercherie" is bad enough anywhere, but is infinitely more so in a bibliographical journal.

The September number of *Polybiblion* contains a list of 53 special bibliographies of French towns and provinces, contributed by M. James Jackson, Archiviste-bibliothécaire of the Société de Géographie.

Mr. W. Cushing has issued from Cambridge, Mass. a prospectus of a proposed book on "Initials and Pseudonyms," which will contain 400 or 500 8vo pages, and will be issued to subscribers at $5. Mr. Albert R. Frey, of the Astor Library is also at work upon a Dictionary of Pseudonyms, which will embrace nearly fifteen thousand titles, and will be called "Masques: a Dictionary of Literary Disguises."

We take the following delightful entry from a very recent catalogue sent to us by a second-hand bookseller: Devil.—Mercier (Louis) Le Deuil, son observation dans tous les temps et dans tous les pays comparée à son observation de nos jours, *Londres*, 1877, 12mo. 2s. 6d.

Notes and Queries.

Notes.

The writer of *Hogan, M.P.; the Hon Miss Ferrard; and Flitters, Fatters and Counsellor*, is the wife of Prof. W. N. Hartley, F.C.S., of the Royal College of Science, Dublin. This lady's maiden name was Miss May Laffan. J. P. B.

The author of *About some fellows, Cambridge staircase, and A Day of my life at Eton*, is Mr. George Nugent Banks. J. P. B.

Queries.

Who is "Brenda," the author of *Froggy's little brother*, and other stories? N.R.E.

Who are the authors of the following anonymous publications: Abel Grey; Adrian L'Estrange; Afloat and Ashore (not Cooper's); Airy Fairy Lilian; Alfred in India; Alice Barlow; All in the wild March morning; Anchored; Arnold Leslie; Arrows in the dark; Arthur Clifford; Artist and Craftsman; At war with herself; Bad boy's diary; Bread winners; Broken wedding ring; Bubbles of Finance; Busy hives around us; Carleton Grange; Catherine Howard, or Trials and triumphs; Chamberlayne; Clever Boys; Clever Girls; and Climbers? N. R. E.

Correspondence.

"Photography and Libraries."

However much, under any circumstances, I might have regretted my absence from the recent meeting of the Association, my regret is increased at finding that I have thus missed the opportunity of hearing Dr. Garnett's most important and valuable paper, and the discussion that ensued thereupon. Now that the plan of establishing at the British Museum a Photographic department has been shown to be feasible, the only astonishment is that it was not thought of before. The expense, hitherto attendant on any effort by private individuals to reproduce ancient manuscripts by means of photography, has been a great barrier to the development of the system. The operator, being called upon occasionally to execute some trifling order, has naturally been unable to gain that practical experience which ensures the best results. By the institution of a public department, a staff of skilled assistants can be trained to manipulate the delicate processes required, and also may be kept in constant practice. Aptly enough, at the very time that the proposition in question was brought forward, a work appeared which most appropriately illustrated what may be done in this direction even when set on foot by a single person. The admirable facsimile edited by Mr. James Greenstreet, of one of the earliest and most precious manuscripts in the Cottonian collection, a Survey of Lincolnshire, made (as proved by the handwriting) during the reign of Henry the First, and not later than the year 1119. This most successful work was produced for the subscribers by Mr. Charles Praetorius of South Kensington, who is at all times specially and preferably employed for autotyping by the authorities of both the British Museum and the Public Record Office. The result is truly marvellous, and reflects the highest credit not only on Mr. Praetorius himself, but on the very skilful autotype printers whom he has employed, and to whom he has entrusted the task of working his plates off. For every useful and imaginable purpose, each subscriber has the original before him, bearing every mark and stroke. Each plate is faced by a page of English translation (the original being in Latin with words frequently contracted), printed by Messrs. Wyman in a fine, bold type. It is well seen here of what photography is capable. Possibly the condition of some manuscripts may not lend themselves so readily to the task of reproduction by this process. Occasionally, no doubt, there may be a partial failure, when the vellum is faint or discoloured; at the same time it should be borne in mind how priceless a boon it will be when libraries and the public generally shall be able to place on their shelves exact counterparts of valuable manuscripts which can now only be seen by

much expenditure of time, and under some salutary, but none the less irksome, restrictions. It cannot be disputed that the number of persons who consult manuscripts at the British Museum has greatly increased of late years, and that there is a palpable deterioration constantly going on caused by frequent handling. This destructive tendency can be arrested only by placing photographs in the hands of ordinary members and readers, and by reserving as select, the manuscripts themselves. Many of the Harleian manuscripts, and particularly those relating to heraldry and genealogy, are evidence as to the imperative necessity of taking steps to preserve them, if we intend to convey to posterity the advantages which we possess ourselves. Photography has been successfully employed to repeat engraved title pages which have been removed from books, or to restore missing leaves.

Reference was also made to the application of photography to the preservation of Parish Registers. Having regard to the thousands of parishes in England, it is manifestly impracticable to print them with type, even if a qualified body of copyists could be found. The parchment in many old Registers is greasy and has taken the ink badly, and the writing in most is at times execrable. There must therefore be serious danger of misreading names. Now, if each parish were compelled by law to incur the expense of having its Registers facsimiled by photography, and were required to deposit the copies so made in the nearest local library as well as at Somerset House, not only would an indisputable copy be ready to the inquirer's hands, but all heart burning and jealousy excited by removal of the parish records would be allayed.

In conclusion, I can only repeat that I most cordially support Dr. Garnett's suggestion, and hope that steps will at once be taken to give effect to that which is destined to mark an epoch in the history of literature.

G. I.

Libraries and Royalty.

Free Public Libraries, University College, Nottingham, *October 7th*, 1884.

In your notice of the opening of the Newcastle Public Libraries in the September number of the *Library Chronicle*, you stated (p. 139), that you believed that this was "the first occasion upon which a member of the Royal Family has paid a formal visit to any of the institutions . . . established under the Libraries Acts."

Permit me to remind you that H.R.H. Prince Leopold visited our Central Reference and Lending Libraries on the occasion of the opening of the University College and the re-opening of our central libraries in our present building, when I had the pleasure of presenting H.R.H. with a handsomely bound copy of our 1881 Catalogue, and of explaining the working of the Indicator to the lamented Prince. This was June 30, 1881.

J. Potter Briscoe.

Free Public Libraries.

43, Merrion Square East, Dublin, *October* 4, 1884.

Will you suffer me to ask such of your readers as can find reports of Free Libraries, or any printed information thereon, to send them to me to the above address? I have long taken an interest in this subject, and I published about twenty-eight years ago, a paper showing the Free Libraries then in existence in the United Kingdom and abroad—the pleasant and useful meeting, which has just terminated here, brought so many friends of these institutions together, and your columns offering so ready a way of appeal to their goodness, that I avail myself of the opportunity of asking for such copies from Fellow Members of the Library Association of Reports, Schedules, &c., and also any information which they may have on the subject of the proposed amendment of the Public Libraries Acts—and I propose to submit to the Plymouth Meeting the results of the information which I collect.

Wm. Lane Joynt.

Printed and published for the Library Association of the United Kingdom by J. Davy & Sons, *at the Dryden Press*, 137, *Long Acre, London. Annual Subscription, post free*, 6*s*.

The Library Chronicle.

THE CLASSIFICATION OF LITERATURE.[1]

By Ernest C. Thomas.

IN the October Number of the *Nineteenth Century* one of our own Members, Mr. J. Taylor Kay, Librarian of the Owens College, Manchester, has published an interesting paper on this subject, and urges, not without reason, that "the subject of the classification of literature or recorded knowledge, so far as regards its general heads, is becoming of pressing importance." Mr. Kay, indeed, seems to us rather to under-state his case when he says "is becoming," instead of "has become;" and still more so when he writes: "it is even *within the bounds of probability* that, as a result of the great educational wave that has over-spread the country, and of the progress of scientific study, there *may ultimately* be a necessity for specialised libraries." Surely, to speak only of modern times, "specialised libraries" have been necessary for several centuries: and many of our oldest existing libraries are special collections. The libraries of the Inns of Court go back to the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, and some of our Medical Libraries are nearly as old, while the number of special libraries of various kinds at present existing is almost legion.

In truth, the sense of the necessity of classification has arisen from the rapid increase of general libraries, which is so conspicuous a feature of our own times. The need has been felt long enough by librarians; and is now becoming more and more felt by the users of libraries—the army of special students to whose increase Mr. Kay refers. The acceptance of such an article as Mr. Kay's by the editor of the *Nineteenth Century* is in itself an indication of this fact, and may fairly be considered as an event of sufficient importance to form the subject of an evening's discussion.

Mr. Kay thinks that "The subject is less complex than it is generally considered to be," and that if it has been "a bugbear for some centuries," this is "not so much by reason of the difficulty of the subject, as because there has been no general consensus of opinion." I confess that to me the explanation of the want of a consensus of opinion is ample evidence of the difficulty of the subject; and I am inclined to agree rather with the opinion of one who was for some time a distinguished ornament of Owens College, the late Prof. Stanley Jevons, when he says: "It is a very difficult matter to classify the sciences, so close and complicated are in many cases the relations between them. But *with books the complication is infinitely greater.*"[2]

[1] Read at the November Monthly Meeting.
[2] The Principles of Science, vol. ii. p. 402.

The result of Mr. Kay's thought and experience in connexion with this subject, and the chief conclusion reached in his paper, is that Mr. Melvil Dewey's scheme of classification "is the classification above all others which should be adopted for general use." "I have formed this opinion," he adds, "after twenty-seven years' official experience in libraries."

We must, I need hardly say, receive Mr. Kay's judgment, justified by so long an experience, with the utmost respect; yet I cannot help thinking that in his unqualified praise of Mr. Dewey's scheme Mr. Kay has claimed more for it than Mr. Dewey himself has ever done.

Let me give an illustration of this. After enumerating Mr. Dewey's nine classes,—oddly enough, however, omitting to take notice of the introductory class of generals and encyclopædias,—Mr. Kay observes: "It would be difficult for anyone to take exception to this. All is order, symmetry, and law." And in the same page he says, "Mr. Dewey's scheme arrives at almost mathematical perfection."

Now let us hear Mr. Dewey himself. In April, 1882, Mr. Dewey wrote an article in the *Library Journal*[3] apropos of Mr. Perkins' classification, from which it would appear that the features in his own scheme which he most values are the "alphabetical short title reference to each subject by number,"—and the plan of "movable (or relative) location;" and adds, with regard to the classes so highly eulogised by Mr. Kay: "As to the philosophical or rational divisions my opinion is not valuable, the *Amherst* faculty being the authors of most of this part of our scheme!"

I have indeed elsewhere expressed my own opinion that the Dewey scheme is chiefly valuable not as a scientific or rational classification, but as a system of notation.[4] It must be quite understood that I do not wish for a moment to discount the value of Mr. Kay's judgment upon Mr. Dewey's system, which has obtained and deserved the suffrages of many who are well qualified to judge of its merits as a practical scheme. At the same time it is, I cannot help thinking, a little unfortunate, that when this scheme is commended to the general public, they should not be informed of the different opinions with regard to it which exist even in America. The public is left to suppose that in this scheme the last word upon the subject has been spoken. How far this is from the truth the readers of the American *Library Journal* must be fully aware. At our Cambridge Meeting in 1882 I called attention to five American schemes, three of which had been propounded since Mr. Dewey's, and are so many challenges to the absolute merits of the Dewey scheme. At least two other schemes have been proposed since—one by Mr. J. Schwartz,[5] the other by Mr. J. N. Larned.[6]

I do not propose, at present, to repeat or to add to the very brief criticism of Mr. Dewey's scheme which I offered at Cambridge. What I wish rather to do is to bring out clearly the fact that this scheme has not yet received anything like general assent even in America. Its author is understood to have in preparation a new edition of his scheme based on ten years' experience of its working, and librarians on both sides of the Atlantic will look forward with much interest to this recension of his work.

Meantime some good may arise out of this evening's discussion, if we realize more forcibly than we have all of us yet done, first, the pressing importance of the subject

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3 Vol. vii. p. 60.
4 Cambridge Transactions, p. 182.
5 Library Journal, vol. vii. 148 foll.
6 Ib. vol. ix. 62 foll.

and, secondly, the practical interest which is exhibited in it by our American cousins as compared with our own as yet more theoretical interest. The question has been urged upon the attention of one annual meeting after another. The annual meetings have been content with referring the matter to the Council. The Council has been engrossed with the various tasks involved in administering our affairs; and but little has so far been done. But is it not time that this work should be taken in hand? Mr. Kay suggests that "a commission of representatives, say from the Royal Society, the Society of Arts, the British Museum, and the Association of Librarians, might be instituted to inquire into, and report on a simple, primary classification of literature." For that perhaps we shall have long to wait; nor is it certain that the recommendations of such a commission would secure, or deserve, a general assent. But in our own body we have an organization which should be quite capable of dealing with the question, and which has in fact already put its hand to the plough. The particular direction in which our first experiment might best be made, it is not difficult to indicate. It has been more than once pointed out that we have in the libraries established under the Public Libraries Acts a number of institutions pursuing common aims and like methods, and characterised with all their variety, by a great similarity of conditions. Why should we not at once endeavour to form a scheme of classification which may meet the requirements of these libraries?

PROPOSED EXAMINATION OF LIBRARY ASSISTANTS.

The Library Association of the United Kingdom propose to hold an Examination, if candidates present themselves, on the *first Tuesday in July*, for the purpose of granting certificates to Library Assistants and others (*see note at end*).

Every candidate will, as a matter of course, be expected to show proficiency in the ordinary subjects of a sound English education. These subjects are in the Report of the Committee on this subject (which is printed in *Monthly Notes*, vol. ii. pp. 62-4) specified to be: 1, Arithmetic; 2, English Grammar and Composition; 3, English History; 4, Geography; 5, English Literature. Special attention will be given to Writing and Spelling. The Examiners will, if necessary, set a general paper in these subjects at the examination for a Second-Class certificate.

Examination for a Second-Class Certificate.

A *Second-Class Certificate* will be awarded to any Librarian or Assistant who shall have been engaged in library work for not less than one year, and shall pass a satisfactory examination in the subjects numbered 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5, below.

A cataloguing knowledge of at least *two* languages besides English, of which Latin must be one, will be necessary for a certificate.

1. *English Literature, especially of the last hundred years.*

Candidates are recommended to use some or all of the following books to gather a general idea of the history and development of literature in England. It is obvious that candidates who are employed in a library have abundant facilities for securing an acquaintance with the standard works in English literature, and the examiners will take special care to see how far the candidates have examined the books themselves, and not merely read about them. It is also obvious that the candidate must be expected to have a more exact knowledge of the various editions and forms in which the works

of leading writers have been published, and of the literature that has grown up around these works, than can always be derived from the ordinary text-books of literature.

The general history may be read in *Stopford Brooke's Primer*, followed by *Angus*, or *Arnold*, or *Craik*, or *Morley* (*First Sketch*), or *Shaw*. One of the latter works may be used as a text book, and reference may be made to *Morley's* larger books. *Taine* may also be consulted by more advanced students.

It is more difficult to recommend an adequate text-book for the "Literature of the last Hundred Years;" but Prof. Morley's account of *English Literature in the Reign of Victoria* may be used. It is obvious that it is particularly important for the student in this portion of his reading to make constant reference to the books treated of.

2. *Some one other European Literature.*

The literature which it will be well for candidates to select will be that of France or Germany. *French literature* may be studied in Saintsbury's *Primer of French Literature* or Masson's *Class Book of French Literature. German literature* may be studied in Gostwick and Harrison's *Outlines of German Literature.* In each case easy passages for translation will be set, so as to test the candidate's familiarity with the language, and the languages in which the candidate satisfies the examiners will be endorsed on the certificate.

3. *Classification.*

Candidates will be expected to make themselves acquainted with some of the chief systems of classification used in large libraries. Their practical knowledge will be tested by their being asked to say how they would classify a number of books given to them for that purpose. The candidates will also be expected to have a general idea of the subjects with which the various departments of knowledge are concerned.

4. *Elements of Bibliography and Cataloguing.*

As here employed, the term Bibliography is intended to cover a knowledge of the external history and character of printed books, and of the various modes of describing and cataloguing them.

The cataloguing knowledge and skill of the candidate will be tested by placing before him a certain number of books to be catalogued according to the rules of the Library Association. For the general subject, the article *Bibliography* in the new edition of the *Encyclopædia Britannica* or Horne's *Introduction to the Study of Bibliography* may be consulted.

5. *Library Management and Administration.*

The subject of Library Management is one in which the examination must be of a specially practical nature, and in which book-knowledge must hold a secondary, though not unimportant place. This branch of the examination will be directed rather to test the candidate's experience, and his skill and readiness in dealing with the various practical problems which may be submitted by way of testing his capacity. The candidate will be examined as to his knowledge of the methods in use in his own library, or in any other with which he may be acquainted. He is recommended to read Mr. Mullins' book on *Free Libraries and News-Rooms.*

First-class Certificate.

A *First-Class Certificate* will be given to a librarian or assistant of at least two years' experience for an advanced knowledge of the above subjects, and also of General Literary History.

A Cataloguing knowledge of at least three languages, of which one must be Latin, will be *necessary* for a First-Class Certificate, and a sufficient acquaintance with any other will be specially endorsed on the certificate.

Proficiency in special subjects offered by the candidate (of which not more than two may be offered) will be specially endorsed.

I. *English Literature, especially of the last hundred years.*

In addition to the text-books recommended above, candidates for a First-Class Certificate should consult Taine's *Histoire de la Littérature Anglaise* (original or translation) for the general history of English literature, and Mrs. Oliphant's *Literary History of England in the End of the Eighteenth and Beginning of the Nineteenth Century* for that of the last hundred years.

2. *Some one other European Literature.*

French Literature may be studied in Demogeot's *Histoire de la Littérature Française* or *Geruzez;* and German Literature in Koenig's *Deutsche Litteraturgeschichte*, or Scherer's *Geschichte der deutschen Literatur.*

3. *Classification.*

Candidates will do well to read Fowler's *Inductive Logic*, pp. 45-88 (Clarendon Press Series), and Jevons' *Principles of Science*, chap. xxx. They may also refer to Mill's *System of Logic*, and Whewell's Books on the *Inductive Sciences.*

4. *Elements of Bibliography, including Cataloguing.*

In addition to the practical knowledge of the subject acquired by the candidate in his own library, the advanced student will find it needful to refer to the recent discussions in England and America on the subjects of Cataloguing and Size Notation.

A knowledge of bibliography must be held to imply an acquaintance with the early history of printing, especially in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, and in this country; or some acquaintance with the leading catalogues and bibliographical works, especially those produced in the English-speaking countries. The candidate should also be familiar with the Latin names of the towns most frequently found in imprints.

The candidate may be recommended to pay attention to the bibliographies of special subjects, and may offer one or more of them as "Special subjects:" *e.g.*, Mr. Mullinger's list of authorities in Gardiner and Mullinger's *Introduction to English History.*

5. *Library Management and Administration.*

The chief subjects to which the candidate should direct his attention are the following:—

i. Library Buildings. ii. Library Fittings and Appliances. iii. Acquisition and Selection of Books. iv. Shelf Arrangement. v. Catalogues: (1) Shelf Lists; (2) Accession Lists; (3) Catalogues for Readers. vi. Administration: *a.* Finance; *b.* Librarian's relation to the Readers; *c.* Circulation of Books.—(i.) Lending Department; (ii.) Reference Department.—*d.* Stock-taking; *e.* Duties of the Staff. vii. Binding.

Candidates will be expected to show some knowledge of the arrangements and regulations of the leading libraries in this country of the class of that in which they are employed.

The sources of imformation upon the various subjects included under Library Management are too numerous to be mentioned in detail. For a general survey of the whole field candidates may refer to the article *Libraries* in the new edition of the *Encyclopædia Britannica*, or Mr. Edwards' *Memoirs of Libraries*, and may also consult the United States Government *Report* of 1876, and the articles to be found in our own *Transactions*, and in the *Library Journal*, *Monthly Notes*, and the *Library Chronicle.*

6. *General Literary History.*

It is difficult to recommend a text-book in this subject, but the student should not overlook Berington's *Literary History of the Middle Ages* and Hallam's *Literature of Europe.*

NOTE.—For the present persons who have not been actually engaged as library assistants may be admitted to the examination on obtaining permission from the Council.

MR. MELVIL DEWEY'S WORK AT COLUMBIA COLLEGE.

BY HENRY R. TEDDER.

Columbia College has a history of 130 years, being the oldest university in the state of New York and the richest in the United States. Before 1784 it was known as King's College. Although not formally denominational, it is managed chiefly by members of the Protestant Episcopal Church. Since 1873 the continually-increasing number of students has made it necessary to erect new buildings, which now occupy an entire block in the heart of the city. The most recent structure is one devoted to the law school below and to the library above, and has been completed during the last year at a cost of 400,000 dols. The original collection of books belonging to King's College was dispersed at the Revolution. In 1806, six hundred volumes from it were discovered in a room in St. Paul's Chapel. The number increased in 1862 to 16,000 vols. A valuable bequest from Stephen Whitney Phœnix added 7,000 vols. in 1882. Until the autumn of 1883 there was no general university library; the various schools possessed six independent collections in nine different rooms, and there were also a number of small departmental libraries.

Mr. Dewey's early connexion with Amherst, and subsequently with the American Library Association and the *Library Journal*, have long made his name familiar to us, and have caused him to be honoured as a brilliant example of the enterprise, energy, and public spirit which should be the "notes" of the modern professional librarian. His selection to reorganize the college library was therefore hailed with satisfaction by his friends on both sides of the Atlantic; and his first report, issued a few months ago, shows that the appointment has been justified in its result. The report is an extremely valuable document, and is really a condensed guide to the most approved methods of library economy as applied to a large collection intended for the use of students and cultivated readers. The following pages present a view of the most interesting particulars, arranged in a brief form, which it is hoped may be found useful to librarians in general.

The Year's Work.—Mr. Dewey was elected to the chief librarianship May 7, 1883, and began at once to examine the different collections, and to search the catalogues, inventories, records, etc., which had formerly been kept. It was decided that the departmental libraries should be brought together to form one great university collection, the whole 50,000 vols. rearranged, reclassified, and a new working system organized. The former law, science, and other departmental librarians were made members of the new library staff, and a number of Wellesley girls of the class of 1883 engaged as cataloguers and assistants. The subordinate staff was carefully selected from more than 100 suitable candidates. The hours of attendance were so arranged that no one need work more than seven hours a day. The shell of the new building was completed, but it was still full of scaffolding and workmen. Instead of closing the library and stopping the addition of new books, it was found possible to deliver books on the morning of

the new term, to keep open nine times as many hours as had been usual formerly, and to obtain twelve times as many books as the previous annual average. On June 4, 1883, a printed statement was submitted to the trustees, showing what work ought to be done. The proposals were approved, and a preliminary sum of 5,000 dols. appropriated. A report of the progress made was presented on November 5, and a second grant of 5,000 dols. voted. All the plans originally laid out have been closely followed. In addition to the regular routine duties, the year's work includes the removal to the new building of the various departmental collections; the classification under a thousand classes, divisions, and sections of 50,000 volumes; the careful collation of these books and of the catalogues, in order to weed out duplicates and to complete imperfect sets; and the purchase of books to fill up many gaps revealed by this inspection. The duplicates have been removed to the fifth floor, and many have either been sold or exchanged. Before the end of the year the shelf catalogue will have been completed, showing author, title, number of vols., class, division, section, and book number of each book in the order in which it stands upon the shelves, supplying at once a record for checking as well as a subject catalogue in book form. The library stamp has been placed on a large number of the books, plates, and maps; book-plates have been inserted; book-cards written for each volume, and pockets inserted to receive them. Considerable progress has been made with the main author and subject catalogues, as well as with the classification and index. From October to April 1, 10,780 cards were prepared. Many outstanding works have been brought in by borrowers which were not charged in the old records.

Administration.—The library committee of the Board of Trustees has been enlarged to seven members; it has drawn up a code of bye-laws, and order of business. Sub-committees have been appointed, each consisting of two trustees with the chief librarian, on administration, staff, books, supplies, building, publications, and school of library economy. Besides the chief librarian, the staff includes five other librarians, two having charge of the reference department (one attending to law, political science, and history, and the other to sciences, arts, and serials), one taking the classification, one the catalogues, and one the shelf arrangement. The fifteen assistants include seven ladies. Every detail of the administration has been compared with the best methods used in libraries both at home and abroad. As few human institutions are more permanent than universities, the foundations of the system have been made broad and deep. The library will be given its fitting rank as a distinct university department. A sum of 1,000 dols. will always be placed to the credit of the librarian to avoid the tedious delays of vouchers and references to other officials. Cash payments result in lower prices for books. The chapter "On the Library" of the college statutes has been re-written. The Torrey Herbarium, extending to 60,000 specimens, will form part of the botanical library. The regulations for readers have been drawn-up with a view to make no rule not absolutely necessary for the safety of the books, or the protection of the many against the individual. The *alumni* have appreciated being restored to all the library privileges of undergraduates. Literary men and other students have also been given a courteous welcome as regular readers. All have direct access to 30,000 volumes of reference. The library is open daily from 8 A.M. to 10 P.M., and never closed except on Sundays and Good Friday. Permission to work at the shelves in the loan and stack rooms is freely given. Books may be borrowed for home reading.

Building.—The interior is finished in brick, and the exterior, facing 49th Street, is in harmony with the remainder of the new buildings, said to be of the "English collegiate" style. An engraving of the reading-room in the November number of *Harper's New Monthly Magazine* represents a finely-proportioned apartment of the old-fashioned "cathedral" type, 113 feet long, 73 feet wide, and 58 feet high, with a triple-arched roof, supported by iron-truss work. A gallery, to which access is given by straight iron stairs, runs all round. The Phœnix collection occupies the entire south gallery. The floor is dotted with tables, the assistant-librarians having also their desks upon the main floor. A transept has been fitted up temporarily as a stack room, leaving the great south nave open for readers. A hoist connects the stack-rooms on the fourth, fifth, and six floors. Reserve rooms have been left unshelved for future wants. All these arrangements have been made while the workmen were still occupied in putting the finishing touches upon the building, and in many instances the architect's interior plans have been altered. An assistant always on duty at the single entrance sees every person as he comes in and goes away. The reading-room can be heated to 68 deg. F., even in the coldest weather; ventilating registers are erected in each corner; and the powerful draught caused by 600 feet of steam-pipes in each, with the large register near the ceiling, and the supply of pure air from the ten upright registers near the floor, secure perfect ventilation. The reading-room has large windows on all four sides, and is flooded with light. Three hundred Edison electric lights are run by dynamos and engines on the premises.

Fittings and Appliances.—The shelf-support pins throughout the library have been countersunk into the wood, so that the shelves should not slip, or projecting pins injure the bindings. Indiarubber tips are placed on all chair legs, and on all doors, gates, trays, &c., to prevent noise. The cases are of iron, with oak shelving. To do away with ladders, bronze steps and handles are fitted to each upright, whenever a shelf is above reach. All the departments are connected by electric bells, annunciators, and speaking tubes. The bells strike different tones and in single strokes, instead of the usual obnoxious *whirr*, and spell out messages by intervals of sound. The speaking tubes are laid in curves instead of at right angles, thus transmitting the lowest tones quite audibly. By means of switches, the tubes can be connected like telephone wires. Books are carried in trucks to hold 200 volumes, balanced upon large india-rubber wheels; and trays, with indiarubber feet and broad carrying straps, serve for smaller loads. There is an indiarubber carpet, and the pages wear slippers. The vestibule is fitted with oak settees, tiled floor, lighted perfectly at night, supplied with running iced water, is open to all comers, and makes a pleasant waiting-room. The loan desk is at the right of the entrance. Here are received coats, hats, umbrellas, etc., without charge. A district messenger call-box is also placed here, so that telegrams may be sent and messengers procured. The vestibule and loan-room will also be available for conversation purposes. Under each window an oak seat for two is fitted; the fronts are hinged to the floor, thus giving twenty-six locked closets for the staff or readers. A letter-box at the door of the chief librarian's room receives recommendations of books, notes, suggestions, etc., either signed or unsigned. Removable electric students' lamps are placed upon each table. The advice of Dr. Agnew, the oculist, has been followed in choosing them. Opaque shades throw direct light upon the books and tables. In the stack rooms, flexible pendant electric lamps can be lighted or shut off by the touch of a hanging cord, and can be used as a torch

to reach dark corners. Each of the sixty oak reading-tables can be adjusted to the readers' wants; long slides on either side can be drawn out for reference volumes; the braces at the bottom are arranged in a cross, to give free space for the feet. Arm and ordinary chairs are of Austrian bent wood, mahogany finish, cane seats and back, with the back legs shortened. Shelf labels, with class, numbers, and subjects, are placed throughout the library, with iron supports to keep books upright on the shelves. For convenience of direction and reference, the entire building has been lettered and numbered; but the books themselves are arranged, not by those numbers, but by subject and class numbers, or relative location. The system gives, first, the number of the floor, counting the basement o. The rooms are lettered A, B, &c., from left to right from the main entrance to each floor; then, in each room, the sides or *faces* of shelving are numbered, each *tier* of shelves is lettered, and each shelf numbered from top to bottom. Thus, 52 E 4 indicates the fourth *shelf* from the top of the E or fifth *tier* of shelves in the second long *face* running east and west on the fifth floor. These numbers are painted on the iron and oak shelving in all the stack rooms. Large letters on the wall above the gallery cases in the main reading room mark off the chief sections. Books recently added are placed together before being placed upon the shelves. The packing and store-rooms are on the first floor, below the main entrance, with laboratory; on the main floor is a ladies' room. There are private reading-rooms, besides the accommodation in the main hall. There is no more room on the main floor for readers, but the gallery can be widened so as to afford space for forty-eight private reading-desks to face the rooms, with locked drawers, shelves, and slides for extra volumes. Oval discs at the end of each desk will call pages for ink, books, &c., by a system of colours. Lights are placed at the entrance to the grounds, and at the stone terrace steps, and kept lighted until ten o'clock.

Selection of Books.—Every reader is invited to recommend for purchase any work likely to assist him in his studies. The titles of works thus recommended are placed in pigeon-holes for the inspection and comment of the professor in whose department the book may fall. There is, besides, an open selection shelf of new books for each of the twenty departments in which the college gives instruction. On this, upon a given morning in each week, is placed the literature that can be obtained on inspection. Opportunity is thus given for a more rigid scrutiny than can be obtained from a glance at the mere titles, and the system keeps the professor and student fully abreast of the literature of his subject. Books wanted *in haste* can be called for specially. It is hoped that certain of the great city libraries may each be induced to specialize in one or other direction. The wants of the college must determine the course to be taken in the choice of books. The subjects on which it is thought desirable to collect books, periodicals, pamphlets, clippings, MSS., etc., have been grouped in five classes. *Class A* includes *everything* relating to Columbia College, law, political science, mines, chemistry, engineering, etc. *Class B*, subjects on which all *important* works should be obtained, such as meteorology, comparative philology, etc. *Class C*, only the *most important*, such as general periodicals, ethics, ecclesiastical history, etc. *Class D*, only *exceptional*, being theology, medicine, surgery, etc. In *Class E* (*e.g.*, book rarities), none are bought, but gifts are gratefully received. *Class F* marks subjects in which gifts are only accepted when bound and fit for the shelves. *Class G* indicates those which would be received upon no consideration whatever. A classified record of daily additions is kept for reference.

Accessions.—A number of books much above the average has been added within the last twelve months, without any increase in the usual appropriation. The reasons are (1), many more gifts have been received than has been the case before; (2), the system of purchasing has been altered, new American and foreign works being now bought at 20 per cent. or 30 per cent. below former prices; and (3), purchases have been made direct from auctions and from booksellers' catalogues, instead of through the college agents. Judicious requests and incessant correspondence have secured many valuable gifts of books and pamphlets from authors and societies. The advantages of a fire-proof building, open fourteen hours daily to the public, make the college library a desirable repository for national, state, or learned bodies, who can have their literary collections well cared for and made available for scholars. The lecture and other rooms afford meeting places for such associations. The American Metrological Society have already deposited their important collection on metrology and allied subjects.

Cataloguing Room.—In this department there are eight tables standing in front of the tiers of shelves. When books come in they are first checked with the bills or other vouchers at the office, and pass on large trucks to the Collation-table. Having been carefully collated they are then placed upon the Accession-table, where the particulars necessary for the shelf catalogue are taken. The next in order is the Catalogue-table, where the titles are prepared for "carding," real or full names are supplied, and by pencil dots under certain letters, the cards and references are indicated. Then comes the Card-table, where author and subject cards are written, and, following it, the Classification-table, where the preceding work is revised and the class numbers assigned. On the Shelf-table the author numbers are added, the entries of the Shelf-catalogue written, and book-plates, book-cards and pockets inserted. Having passed through these processes the books remain for one week upon the Inspection-shelf for the benefit of readers, and then are sent to their permanent resting-place in the library. When a volume is wanted in haste, a red tape is put between the covers at the office, and it goes through the series of tables at once. By means of a close division of the work each volume is made to tell its own story; errors can be traced to the person making them; when it was bought, what it cost, and by whom it was catalogued, can be ascertained at once.

Periodicals and Pamphlets.—The receipt of each part is recorded, and should one fail to arrive at its proper time, a post card is sent at once. Blank forms, upon which periodicals and continuations are noted, are kept in each department for the use of readers. Four hundred serials are taken in. Unbound parts are kept in cases with the bound sets. Each pamphlet is marked with its class number, and placed separately with others on the same subject in a case in the proper place in the classification.

Binding.—It has been found possible to get better work at a less cost than had been the case heretofore. Serials are bound when titles and indexes come in. Catalogues, reports, &c., are put up in decades—*e.g.*, 1870—79; or if too bulky, in fives. Cases on the shelves contain unbound parts. The tops of volumes are polished, the corners are tipped with vellum, and a uniform system of lettering and plain Arabic figures used. Whenever necessary, double numbers for series and volumes, and general and particular titles, are given. To avoid the monotony of the British Museum system of indicating *subjects* by colours, the plan of showing the *language* by colour has been followed in this manner:—

LANGUAGE	COLOUR	LANGUAGE	COLOUR
English { Am. eds.	light brown	Spanish	olive
English { Eng. „	dark „	Latin	light green
German	black	Greek	dark „
Other Teutonic	dark blue	Other Indo-European	light blue
French	red	Semitic	yellow
Italian	maroon	Other languages	light drab

Classification and Catalogues.—The books, pamphlets, and periodicals are minutely classified upon the shelves, upon a development of the well-known Amherst decimal system. The references are made to the number of the books, and not to the number of the shelf. Copies of the printed alphabetical index will give a key to the position of particular subjects. The catalogues will follow the same plan. The present staff expect to be able to arrange and catalogue the entire library in three years. The future catalogue will describe not only the books in the library, but all the literary, artistic, and antiquarian possessions of the college.

Charging System.—The registration of books is carried on at a desk at the entrance, in communication, by means of sliding boxes, with the stack-room (a low room 61 by 22 feet, housing 40,000 volumes, with lettered avenues and numbered streets of books, 26 inches wide), in which the body of the collection not needed for reference is placed. A pocket inside the cover of each volume contains a card. Each borrower is also represented by a card, arranged under his name at the desk. Having signed his initials on the book-card, the latter is kept by subjects in a series of boxes. On the return of the book, the card is date-stamped, which acts as a receipt, and it is replaced in the book.

Aids to Readers and Library Lectures.—The library is not satisfied with merely cataloguing and arranging its stores. Each reader will be directly helped in his work. A regular bulletin will furnish official announcements, lists of new books, and similar matters of interest. It is proposed to give lectures on (1), practical bibliography proper, teaching what are the best books on specific subjects; (2), on books and their editions; (3), on reading, and how to read; (4), on literary methods, and how to make use of book knowledge.

School of Library Economy.—This extremely important proposal need only be referred to, in passing, as it will form the subject of a special article.

SIZE-NOTATION AT THE BODLEIAN.

Some time ago we printed in the *Monthly Notes*[1] the new Bodleian Cataloguing Rules, issued by Mr. E. B. Nicholson, the Librarian.

We now have much pleasure in presenting our readers with the Tables and Rules for noting the Sizes of Books, which have been prepared to supplement the Cataloguing Rules—and we are grateful to Mr. Nicholson for his permission to reproduce the Tables.

Mr. Nicholson has prefixed the following Note to the copy forwarded for our use:—

"*The following additions to the Bodleian Cataloguing Rules have been drafted by the librarian and have been for some time in use. They are still subject to amendment, but he will probably adopt them substantially as they stand, and will send copies, when ready, to all who may apply for them. He wishes to acknowledge his great debt to Mr. Blades for valuable information as to many different varieties of folding.*"

1 Vol. iv. pp. 5 foll., 31 foll.

1. The size of a book printed on { WATERMARKED paper is to be described in accor
UNWATERMARKED " " " "

2. The number of leaves in the sections of a book, when not according with the des

EXAMPLES. A book of ordinary 8° dimensions, printed on WATERMARKED folio leaves whi

A book measuring 10½ in. × 13 in., printed on UNWATERMARKED folio leaves gathered in

If the book consists of but one section, FOUR, SIX, EIGHT, ETC. are to be used instead of FO

TABLE I.

NARROW SIZES — BRO

WITH ABNORMAL VARIATIONS.

1 Sheet folded.	2 Size—height of page.		3 Chain-lines—watermark.	4 Sheet folded	5 Size—heigh
		inches			
(once) in 2	atl. fol.	over 28	down—in centre of leaf	(twice) in 4	la. 4°
	la. fol.	18—28			4o
	fol.	12—18			sm. 4°
	sm. fol.	under 12			†obl. 4°
	*§obl. fol.	*as above	across—sideways in centre of leaf.		
(thrice) in 8	la. 8°	over 9	down—thro' back, at top	(thrice) in 6	la. 6°
	8°	7—9			6°
	sm. 8°	under 7			sm. 6°
(do. or ½ sh. twice)	*obl. 8°	*as above	across—sideways thro' back at top		
(4 times) in 12	la. 12°	over 7	across—on fore edge, high or low		
	12°	6—7			
	sm. 12°	under 6			
	*sq. 12°	*as above	down—thro' back, at centre		
(4 times) in 16	la. 16°	over 6	across—top right corner		
	16°	5—6			
	sm. 16°	under 5			
(5 times) in 18	la. 18°	over 6	down—in centre of leaf		
	18°	5—6			
	sm. 18°	under 5			
(5 times) in 24)	la. 24°	over 5	across—thro' back, at top		
	24°	4—5	down—in centre of fore edge		
	sm. 24°	under 4			
	*sq. 24°	*as above	down—in centre, bottom or top		
(½ sh. 4 times) in 32	la. 32°	over 5	down—on fore edge, at foot		
	32°	4—5			
	sm. 32°	under 4			

† i. e. an obl. 4° u

* i. e. an obl. fol. over 18 in. would be *la. obl. fol.*—an obl. 8° of 8 in. *obl.* 8°—a sq. 12° under 6 in. *sm. sq*

§ e. g. Tinworth's works, 1883. There is no back.

Books on the line of height between two sizes are to be described as of the lower siz

This table is believed to represent all ordinary foldings of a WATERMARKED *shee foldings are possible, and some may have been occasionally used by printers—but any w cannot be identified from col.* 3 *or* 6 *should be submitted to the librarian.*

ith TABLE I.
„ II.
of size, is to be indicated in round brackets prefixed to the latter.

gathered mostly in sixes, but sometimes in fours and eights, is to be described as
(SIXES, ETC.) SM. FOL.

s to be described as
(EIGHTS) OBL. 4°.

XES, EIGHTS, ETC.

s

TABLE II.

	6 Chain lines—watermark
2	across—in centre of back
9	
ve	down—in centre of top edge
	across—thro' back, high or low
6	

would be *sm. obl.* 4°.

NARROW SIZES (width of page $< \frac{4}{5}$ height) Size—height of page.		SQUARE SIZES (width of page $= \frac{4}{5}$ height but not $>$ height) Size—height of page.		OBLONG SIZES (width of page $>$ height) Size—height of page.	
	inches		*inches*		*inches*
atl. fol.	over 28	sq. atl. fol.	over 28	obl. atl. fol.	over 28
la. fol.	18—28	la. sq. fol.	18—28	„ la. fol.	18—28
fol.	12—18	la. 4°	12—18	„ fol.	12—18
la. 8°	9—12	4°	9—12	„ 4°	9—12
8°	7—9	sm. 4°	7—9	„ 8°	7—9
12°	6—7	sq. 12°	6—7	„ 12°	6—7
16°‖	5—6	sm. sq. 12°	5—6	„ 16°‖	5—6
24°‡	4—5	sq. 24°‡	4—5	„ 24°‡	4—5
sm. 24°‡	under 4	sm. sq. 24°‡	under 4	sm. obl. 24°‡	under 4

‖ Where the book is printed in eighteens, 18° is to be used instead of 16°.
‡ Where the book is printed in thirtytwos, 32° is to be used instead of 24°.

Books on the line of height between two sizes are to be described as of the lower size.

inters' use. Many other
arked book whose folding

SCRUTTON'S LAWS OF COPYRIGHT.[1]

THE subject for the York Prize Essay in the University of Cambridge in the year 1882 was "The Law of Property in Literary Compositions published and unpublished; the principles that ought to regulate it, and how far such principles have been acted upon in different countries." Mr. Scrutton was the successful competitor; and his essay, enlarged by a discussion of Artistic and Musical Copyright, has been published in the volume now before us. Although in places a little "prize-essayish," Mr. Scrutton's book is one which well deserves to be recommended to the general reader as well as the lawyer, if only for the vigour and freshness with which he has discussed the many interesting questions appertaining to his subject. The subject of literary copyright is one which has in itself claims upon the attention of all those who are interested in literature, and special claims upon the student of literary history. It is rather from this latter standpoint that we are concerned to notice Mr. Scrutton's book in these pages.

The attention of bibliographers has perhaps not been sufficiently directed to the information which may be derived from some of our older law-reports, which lie, perhaps, rather out of the track of the literary student. They require, indeed, to be supplemented by the documents to be found amongst the State papers, and in the records of the Stationers' Company. But the prerogative copyright of the Crown—the chartered rights of the Stationers' Company—the privileges of the Universities—and the great and warmly disputed question of common-law copyright before, or apart from, the Statute of Anne, have given rise to important discussions in the law-courts, the reports of which are full of interest and instruction to bibliographers.

Mr. Scrutton has given in his fourth chapter, on the "History of the English Law of Copyright," a brief and useful account of these questions, and has supplemented it by a list of the "patents and privileges" contained in Rymer's *Fœdera* and some others drawn from the Calendars of State papers. Mr. Cornelius Walford appears to have been unaware of Mr. Scrutton's work, when he recently contributed a much shorter list to the *Bibliographer*, observing that "the subject of Patents granted to authors in favour of particular books, or of Licenses to individual printers authorising the publication of special classes of books, has not yet been treated of, so far as I am aware." I do not understand the grounds upon which Mr. Walford bases the distinction he has here proposed to draw between "privileges" and "patents." Mr. Scrutton's list from Rymer is not quite complete, for he has overlooked at least one, to be found in vol. xvii., p. 111—a license to William Alley to print Thomas Middleton's *The Peacemaker, or Brittain's Blessing* for the term of seven years. His summary of them, moreover, cannot be relied upon for literary purposes, as, unfortunately, there are a great many inaccuracies, especially in proper names. Thus we find "Nicholson" instead of "Nicholas Hillyard" (No. 8, p. 294 in Mr. Scrutton's book); "Burgess"

[1] The Laws of Copyright. An Examination of the principles which should regulate literary and artistic property in England and other countries. By Thomas Edward Scrutton, M.A. London: John Murray, 1883. 8vo, pp. xix, 335.

for "Burges" (No. 11, p. 295); and in those taken from the Calendars, the more serious error of "Minsham" (p. 299) instead of the well-known name of "Minsheu," of the "Guide into the Tongues." It is true that the Calendar prints it "Minshon," but Mr. Scrutton has not even reproduced the mis-spelling of his authority. And, finally, the popular school-book of our ancestors, the once familiar Disticha of Cato, appears in Mr. Scrutton's list as "Cate's distichs" (p. 299), though the Calendar has it quite correctly.

One other odd mistake we have noticed in the book. From the language of his note on the "Office of King's Printer" (p. 71) Mr. Scrutton would appear to be under the impression that this office has ceased to exist. This is, of course, not so: the present occupants of the office holding under a patent dated we believe in 1860, which has still six years to run.

T.

The Library Chronicle.

The LIBRARY CHRONICLE *is issued on the 15th of the month, and communications, books for review, etc., intended for the forthcoming number should be addressed, not later than the 10th of the month, to the Hon. Editor,* ERNEST C. THOMAS, *care of Messrs. J. Davy & Sons, 137, Long Acre, W.C.*

The attention of librarians and library committees, of publishers and booksellers, is called to the advantages of the CHRONICLE (*which represents at least 250 libraries*) *as an advertising medium. Advertisements of Library Vacancies, and of Books Wanted, or Duplicates for Sale or Exchange by Libraries are inserted at low rates.*

Members of the Library Association whose subscription for the current year has been paid are entitled to receive the CHRONICLE.

The Library Association cannot be responsible for the views expressed by the contributors to the CHRONICLE.

The Library Association.

NOVEMBER MONTHLY MEETING.

The November Monthly Meeting was held at the London Institution on November 7th, at 8 p.m., Mr. Henry Stevens in the chair.

It was announced that Mr. W. T. AGAR, Librarian, Institute of Bankers, and Mr. J. H. DUDLEY, Librarian, Free Library, Smethwick, had become members of the Association.

The Chairman then called upon the Hon. Secretary to read a Paper on "The Classification of Literature." After a discussion a vote of thanks was unanimously passed to Mr. Thomas for his Paper.

It was resolved that a classification of books be drawn up suitable for Free Public Libraries, and that the question be referred to a Sub-Committee to report to the Council before the Plymouth Meeting.

The following members were then appointed a Sub-Committee: Messrs. F. T. Barrett, J. P. Briscoe, P. Cowell, W. J. Haggerston, J. D. Mullins, C. W. Sutton, and J. Yates, with power to add to their number.

The meeting then adjourned.

DECEMBER MONTHLY MEETING.

The December Monthly Meeting was held at the London Institution on December 5th, at 8 p.m., Dr. Richard Garnett in the chair.

It was announced that Mr. E. B. CRASTON, Wigan, and Mr. JOSEPH GILBURT, London, had become members of the Association.

The Chairman then called upon Mr. H. R. Tedder to read a Paper on "The British Museum Catalogue of Early English Books to 1640." After a discussion a vote of thanks was passed to the reader of the Paper.

The Meeting then adjourned.

The Council has ordered the regulations for the proposed Examination of Library Assistants to be issued, and has fixed the *first Tuesday in July* for the date of the First Examination.

Library Echoes.

The present double number of the CHRONICLE, with Title and Index, completes our First Volume—to be succeeded, we trust, by many others, each better than its predecessor.

Though we are not ungrateful for the assistance we have received from many of our members, we may be permitted to say that we hope to receive still more in the future.

We think, indeed, that enough has been done to show the desirability, and even the necessity, of an organ for English—in which term we venture to include Colonial—librarians and libraries.

The German *Centralblatt* has in its first year abundantly justified its existence. The French Government has just begun to issue an official library journal for France, of which we shall have more to tell our readers.

Let it be the aim of the Editor and contributors of the CHRONICLE to produce a journal which may worthily stand beside these representative organs of Continental librarianship, and let the members of the Library Association, and all those who are interested in the welfare of our libraries, afford us their support!

With the December issue of his *Anzeiger* Dr. Julius Petzholdt resigns the editorial chair which he has occupied so long and with so much devotion to the work.

We regret that ill-health should be the cause of Dr. Petzholdt's retirement, though the veteran librarian and bibliographer has well earned the right to rest, while younger men enter into and continue his labours.

For nearly half-a-century he has been as "a voice crying in the wilderness." It must be a source of satisfaction to him that at last the importance of the work is being duly recognized. EDITOR.

Library Notes and News.

HOME.

BIRKENHEAD.—In noticing the death of Mr. William Jones, late of Her Majesty's Customs, Liverpool, the *Liverpool Mercury* of Nov. 20, says that—

"Many years ago the deceased was well known in connexion with the establishment of the Free Library at Birkenhead. Soon after the passing of the Free Libraries Act, he interested himself, with the late Mr. John Laird, M.P., and other gentlemen, in favour of the adoption of that measure. The result was that a public meeting was called and the ratepayers adopted the act, the provisions of which were carried out by the then existing Board of Commissioners. Under the act the Library Committee consists of a certain number of the governing body of a town and a like number of ratepayers. The act was adopted at Birkenhead in 1856, and from that date until the time of his death Mr. Jones was a ratepayers' member of the Committee. . . . . Indeed, the deceased was looked upon by many as the founder of the institution, and a strong feeling prevails that his memory should be perpetuated in connexion with the building, in some form or other. He always took the deepest interest in the library, and he used to relate how on one occasion, when he was the only member who attended a meeting of the committee, he moved an increase to the salary of an official, and declared the resolution to be carried unanimously."

BIRMINGHAM FREE LIBRARIES. — A course of lectures has been arranged on the "Books in the Free Libraries." The programme will include lectures on "Law, Jurisprudence and Legal History," by Mr. Councillor G. J. Johnson; "Greek and Latin Classics," by the Rev. A. R. Vardy, Head Master of King Edward VI.'s School; "Art," by Mr. E. R. Taylor, Master of the School of Art, and others; "Theology," by R. W. Dale, D.D.; "Shakspeare Books and Birmingham Books," by Mr. Sam. Timmins. It is intended to publish the whole of the lectures after delivery, so as to form a permanent guide to the Free Libraries.

CHELTENHAM.—The Public Library was opened on October 13th, and the Librarian writes, "since then the building has been literally besieged," and it has become necessary to increase the stock, which at the opening consisted of 3,400 vols. in the lending department. The catalogue was printed ready for the opening of the library. The 1*d.* rate will yield over £1000 per annum.

A special meeting of the Council was held on Dec. 8th to consider the purchase of a site for a new library building. The proposed purchase was agreed to. The result of a discussion as to the advisability of amalgamating the Library with the Schools of Science and Art has been that the Council are willing to erect a building large enough to accommodate these two schools as tenants.

LEEDS.—An Art Exhibition, in connexion with the Leeds Public Library and Museum, was opened by the Mayor (Mr. Ald. Woodhouse) on October 22nd. The attendance has been very large, and an excellent catalogue, published at the low price of one penny, must be a great boon to the visitors.

LEEK.—The opening of the new Nicholson Institute, which has been presented to his fellow-townsmen by Mr. Joshua Nicholson, took place on Thursday, October 16th. The occasion was made a public holiday, and a grand procession of the local authorities and various local bodies escorted the donor and the distinguished visitors to the building. After speeches from Mr. Joshua Nicholson, and his son Mr. J. O. Nicholson, Lord Wrottesley, the Lord-lieutenant of the County, declared the Institution to be open. Other speeches followed, and meanwhile speeches were also delivered to some thousands of people who could not be accommodated within the building. A banquet took place in the evening, followed by an illumination of the town. The Institute, of which we hope to give a fuller account in

another number, is a handsome structure, one of the leading features of which is a tower, 100 feet high. It includes a library, rising through two stories to a height of 50 feet, capable of holding 25,000 volumes; a news-room and a reference reading-room; a museum; three picture galleries, and rooms for a school of art. A loan exhibition of pictures fitly inaugurates the opening of the galleries.

LONDON: BRITISH MUSEUM. — Dr. Richard Garnett has recently retired from the position of Superintendent of the Reading Room, in which he has so long rendered invaluable services to a wide circle of readers and students. It is understood that he will now be enabled to devote increased attention to the editing of the general printed catalogue.

MANCHESTER.—On the programme of the Lancashire and Cheshire Antiquarian Society we notice the following papers:— Nov. 18th, "Exhibition and Description of Books and MSS. in the Manchester Free Reference Library bearing on the Antiquities of Lancashire and Cheshire," by Mr. C. W. Sutton;" and Dec. 13th, "The Oriental Books and MSS. in the Chetham Library," by Rev. C. G. K. Gillespie.

NEWCASTLE.—A fire broke out on Nov. 25th in the reference department of the Public Libraries, and though soon extinguished did considerable damage.

PLYMOUTH.—The formal Opening of the extended premises in connexion with the Free Public Library of Plymouth took place on Monday, November 3rd, in the large news-room. The visitors were conducted over the building by the librarian, and the chair was then taken by the Mayor (Mr. T. Greenway), who called upon Mr. Wright to give an account of the work of the library since its establishment in 1876, Mr. R. C. Serpell, Deputy-chairman of the Library Committee, and other speakers followed. The Rev. W. Whittley, a member of the Committee, referred to the intended visit of the Library Association, and said that "as it included a large number of eminent men Plymouth should feel highly honoured, as it would be the smallest town they had yet met in."

RICHMOND.—Mr. Frank Pacy has been appointed to the vacant librarianship of the Free Public Library, in succession to Mr. Cotgreave. Mr. Pacy was formerly sub-librarian at the Wigan Free Public Library, and has been for some time on the cataloguing staff at the Birmingham Free Library.

ROCHDALE.—The new Free Library at Rochdale was formally opened on Thursday, Oct. 30th, by the Mayor (Alderman Schofield). For some time the question of a new building had been under discussion, when the fire of April 10th, 1883, which damaged considerably the portion of the Town Hall hitherto used for the library, precipitated the decision of the Committee. The new Library is a handsome Gothic building, a view of which appeared in the *British Architect* of October 25th. The windows are adorned by a number of very interesting medallion portraits of distinguished writers, conspicuous amongst which are the "five greatest authoresses of the Victorian era" — George Eliot, Mrs. Browning, Mrs. Somerville, Mrs. Jameson and Charlotte Brontë. The medallions have been presented by Mr. James Ogden. Mr. Watson, the Chairman of the School Board, has presented £100 for books for a Boys' Library. At the opening ceremony addresses were delivered by the Mayor, Mr. J. H. Wylie, Mr. Watson and Mr. James Ogden, who spoke of the influence of woman on literature; the emancipation of her intellect being, in his opinion, the most remarkable fact in the literary history of the last half century. The cost of the new building has been about £5,000.

SWANSEA.—On Saturday, 8th November, the foundation stone was laid of the new Free Library, Art Gallery, and School of Science and Art, at Swansea, on which it is proposed to expend about £10,000. An imposing procession took place through the town to the site, where the stone was laid by the Mayor (Alderman Daniel). The edifice will be Italian in style, with a central tower about 100 feet high, and end pavilions.

T. M. contributed to the *Fifeshire Journal* of Oct. 16th, a long article, entitled "With the Librarians at Dublin."

A paper by Mr. Geo. R. Humphery, one of our auditors, on "Club Libraries: their establishment and management," appeared

in the *Club and Institute Journal* for Oct. 31st and Nov. 7th.

The *Oxford and Cambridge Undergraduates' Journal* of Nov. 14th contains a full-page cartoon, representing Bodley's librarian as "Bibliophylax Bodleianus, or Ordinary Book-worm."

We take the following from the *Wigan Observer* of Nov. 8th:—"On the last day of the Cambridge Meeting of the Library Association Mr. Campbell, Mr. Sutton, and Mr. Cockerell, a learned Recorder, had just parted from Mr. Axon for the night, when they met the Professor on his way to his rooms. With him were his secretary, an old acquaintance of Mr. Folkard's, Mr. George Bullen, of the British Museum, and Mr. Henry Stevens, 'of Vermont.' Mr. Cockerell's 'good night' was instantly recognised by Mr. Fawcett, and a hearty invitation to his rooms followed. Surely a night never to be forgotten. Mr. Stevens had to tell over again a budget of his best stories concerning his friend Longfellow; from Mr. Bullen were 'drawn' some of the secret histories of the great institution whose mysteries are all in his keeping; the remote possibility of a Government victory in Wigan was discussed; and Mr. Sutton had disclosed some startling facts about Manchester Libraries before it was discovered how the host was making up for the buttery being closed—his great trouble—by his charming talk. 'Do the people read books on political economy?' he asked Mr. Sutton. 'They read yours, sir,' was the shrewd reply; but the compliment was gently put aside, and the Chief Librarian passed from diplomacy to statistics, in which he never faileth. Stanley Jevons had been at all the previous Conferences, and the recollection of his kind and genial presence evoked from the host the principal speech he contributed. Rapidly enumerating the few men—putting at their head John Stuart Mill—who had been in recent times distinguished as political economists, and carefully excluding himself, he counted on his fingers how the majority had passed away. On the journey home the Chief Librarian reckoned on how he would astonish the Professor, who should 'see' a copy of his work which had passed the working part of its life-time amongst the Manchester readers of books on political economy, and a thumb-worn volume was afterwards sent to Mr. Fawcett."

FOREIGN.

Europe.

FLORENCE.—The Biblioteca Nazionale has acquired from the family of Count Carlo Capponi his valuable collection of manuscript and printed materials relating to Savonarola.

LEYDEN.—Dr. W. N. du Rieu, Librarian of the University of Leyden, has issued an appeal to librarians in connexion with the proposed publication of the correspondence of Christian Huygens. Many hundreds of letters from and to the great astronomer are in the Leyden Library, and Dr. du Rieu would be glad to know in what other libraries letters from or to Huygens are to be found.

PARIS.—The Ministry of Public Instruction has authorised the publication of a new series of catalogues of the MSS. in public libraries. Two of these catalogues are already in the press—one dealing with the Bibliothèque Mazarine, and the other with the Libraries of Rouen, Alençon and Evreux. A commission has been engaged in drawing-up a specimen catalogue to serve as a model, of which we hope to give some account in another number.

PARIS: MUNICIPAL LIBRARIES.—From a report of the year's working of the 26 municipal libraries, published in the *Journal Officiel*, we learn that the issues of books in the year ending September 30th were 550,340—being an increase on the previous year (*see ante* p. 13) of 36,053. The number of volumes in the 26 libraries was 100,247. The proportion of fiction issued was about 57 per cent.

VIENNA.—The removal of the University Library into its quarters in the new University building was completed on September 16th, having been performed in 20 days, on each of which 20,000 volumes were transferred and arranged. The accommodation in the new building is calculated to provide for a century's growth. The great reading room furnishes seats for 400 readers.

Australia.

BRISBANE.—The *Queensland Leader* of Aug. 16, contains a portrait and sketch of Mr. Denis O'Donovan, the Parliamentary Librarian of Queensland, which appointment he has held since 1874.

BRISBANE.—In the *Brisbane Courier* of Sept. 1, is a letter advocating the establishment of a free public library for Brisbane. The writer points out that "Brisbane, the capital of the youngest but not the least important of the Australian colonies, stands alone with the capital of Western Australia in having no free public library, and no institution which can adequately take its place." The letter is signed "M. L. A. U. K."

United States.

BURLINGTON, Vt.—The Fletcher Free Library, according to the *Library Journal*, was closed on Sept. 30 for want of funds to carry it on, the aldermen having failed to make the necessary appropriations. This is said to be the first instance of such an occurrence in America.

PROVIDENCE, R.I.—The late Senator H. B. Anthony bequeathed to Brown's University his special collection of American poetry, including dramas and song-books. The collection was begun by Judge Albert A. Greene, and continued by Caleb Fisk Harris and Senator Anthony. It comprises over 5000 separate books and pamphlets, and is the richest collection in the United States. Mr. Harris's Rebellion Collection has passed to the Providence Public Library, and numbers in all over 8,300 pieces. It includes besides the literature of the war large collections on the subjects of slavery and American economy and political history.

We are permitted to take the following extract from a private letter from Mr. Justin Winsor:—"I am very sorry our attempt at inducing our fellow professionals in England to come over here during the last summer did not produce better results. We are not discouraged, and propose to urge the same thing the coming year. A meeting of such of the members of our Executive Committee as could be got together met here at my house a few weeks ago, when it was determined to have the next meeting at Boston and Cambridge, if any considerable number of British librarians would come over. We proposed a week before our commencement in June, so that the ceremonies and festivities of commencement week might follow our week of meetings. Dewey says that quite as favourable rates of passage can be made in June as were given to the British Association this last summer; and we shall be happy to take into our houses as many as we can accommodate. What do you think of the prospect? We need very soon to know something definite, and to begin to make arrangements. June is the delightfullest month to be in this vicinity. The leafage is at its prime: the great exodus to the seaside and mountains has not begun; and the streets are lively and the houses in the fashionable parts are not generally closed. Then for commencement week, beside the College Ceremonials, there comes the students' high festival of class day, a brilliant scene of enjoyment, and on another day the ceremonies of Φ. B. K., and the attendant dinner, whose post-prandial performances are the most famous in America."

The October number of the *Library Journal* has a paper, by H. J. Carr, on the "Classification and Notation of the Book Arts;" the November number, a paper on the "Place of Folk-lore in a Classification," by H. B. Wheatley, and a reprint of "A German Librarian on [our] Cataloguing Rules," from the *Monthly Notes*.

Dr. Petzholdt's *Anzeiger* for November has a notice of the fifth volume of Dr. J. S. Billings' great "Index-Catalogue of the Library of the Surgeon-General's Office;" articles on "Bernard Quaritch," and on "Lepsius und Graf v. Korff."

The *Centralblatt* for November has an article by A. Führer, "Ueber Indisches Bibliothekswesen," and an account of another "Codex Corvinianus in der Hamburger Stadtbibliothek," by M. Isler. The December number contains "Ueber die Ordnung der Büchertitel im systematischen Cataloge," by Dr. Karl Uhlirz; "Ein literarischer Fund," by Julius Rathgeber—a Latin MS. history of the Strassburg Library, written by Andreas Lamey about the middle of the last century; and "Aus der Praxis," by Dr. Kerler.

The Western Library Association, of which Dr. W. F. Poole is President, was to hold a meeting at Rock Island, Illinois, on Dec. 3rd, and the following day.

M. Paul Lacroix, known to bibliographers as Bibliophile Jacob, Conservateur of the Arsenal Library in Paris, died on Oct. 26th, aged 78.

Library Catalogues and Reports.

Wolverhampton Free Library. Catalogue of the lending department (5th edition). Price 1s. Wolverhampton, 1883. 8vo, pp. 165.

Short titles, arranged in classes, with the indicator numbers at the end of each title. In the class of Magazines and Reviews, the names of the principal novels and tales are set out. The contents of collected works are also supplied. The catalogue is prefixed with a list of "assumed or former names in authorship." There are 16 pages of advertisements.

Subject-catalogue of the Library of the College of New Jersey at Princeton [compiled by Frederic Vinton]. New York, 1884. La. 8vo, pp. iv, 894.

This is a worthy addition to the increasing array of printed catalogues of American libraries, and like those of the Boston Athenæum, the Brooklyn, Quincy, and Fall River Libraries, is a real index to the collection it describes. Mr. Frederic Vinton's handsome and substantial volume is an alphabetical subject catalogue to a college library of 60,000 volumes, besides pamphlets. The chief articles in collected essays, as well as other matters not mentioned on title pages, have also been indexed. To all names of persons are supplied the dates of their birth and death, and the geographical locality of the names of out-of-the-way places is indicated. There are useful notes here and there. The titles are given "short" with the shelf marks at the end, and are arranged alphabetically under the name of the subjects they treat. The catalogue is strictly confined to subjects, so that while under Shakespeare there may be found a list of Shakespearian under 68 different heads, the only reference to an edition of the dramatic works is under *Drama*. By this system an immense economy of space is obtained. A brief index of authors must still be considered a desideratum. Such titles as Education, Great Britain and United States, taken at random are excellent examples of the admirable sub-classification which is a special feature of Mr. Vinton's work, describing as it does a good selection of modern English and American books, with a fair sprinkling of German and French literature. The catalogue forms a useful supplement to the librarian's working tools.

Barrow-in-Furness. Second Annual Report of the Committee of the Free Public Library. Barrow-in-Furness, 1883-4. Barrow-in-Furness, 1884. 8vo. pp. 15.

The issues have been 88,691 vols., showing an increase of 18,243, of which the larger part has been in the reference department, where 14,216 more vols. were consulted than last year. The increase in the lending department was 4,027. 13,273 vols. were issued from the Juvenile Library. The number of borrowers is now 1,824. The total number of vols. is 8,553. No financial information.

Bolton. Borough of Bolton, established 1853. Thirty-first Annual Report of the Bolton Public Free Library Committee, 1883-4. Bolton, 1884, pp. 16.

The number of vols. in the Reference Library is 27,448, in the Lending Library 13,480, and in the Little Bolton branch 12,278: total 53,206. The issues in the reference department have been 81,899, being an increase of 2,945, compared with last year; from the Oxford street Library 46,567 vols. were lent out, being a decrease of 970; and from the Little Bolton Branch 38,992 vols. were lent, showing increase of 3,396. At the branch 28,402 vols. were consulted for reference. The number of subscribers to the Subscription Library is 364; the vols. and magazines issued number 57,313, showing a decrease of 650 vols.; 1,307 vols. were purchased; and 1,389 vols. transferred to the Public Library. The 1d. rate produced £1,500.

Cambridge. Cambridge Public Free Library, Guildhall, Wheeler-street. Twenty-ninth Annual Report 1883-4, [Cambridge 1884]. 8vo. pp. 13.

The chief event of the year was the opening of the new reading-room by the Mayor, when the Committee issued invitations to a Conversazione. There are now 29,302 vols. in the Library, of which the central reference department owns 7,756, the lending department 17,707, and the Barnwell Branch 3,839. The issues were 79,946 vols. being a small increase over those of last year, a further contribution of 93 vols. have been made by Mr. H. T. Hall, to the Shakespeare and dramatic collections. The 1,047 vols. of reference works available to all comers have been extensively used, and only 3 books were lost. The borough 1d. rate produced £705 5s. 4½d., and fines brought in £33 19s. 0d. The balance sheet shows that the total receipts were 823 10s. 10¾d. and the expenditure £890 10s. 4d.

Borough of Derby. The Thirteenth Annual Report of the Free Library, Museum and Art Gallery Committee [dated November 10th, 1884], 1883-4. 8vo, pp. 22.

The total number of readers is 9,641. The number of volumes issued in the lending library was 151,096, a decrease of 12,584 upon the previous year, which the Committee attribute to the greater number of close days. The number of volumes issued from the reference department was 28,576. The Catalogue of the Devonshire (*i.e.* Duke of Devonshire) Collection of Local Books is now completed. The rate produced £1,392., and the balance in hand is £51. 11s. 7d.

Dundee. Annual Report of the Free Library, Museum and Art Gallery Committee to Town Council, 1883-4. 8vo, pp. 24.

The number of issues was 268,777 volumes, an increase of 32,594 over the number issued last year, and the largest issue of any year in the history of the Library. From the lending department 188,591 volumes were issued, an increase of 4,503. The issues from the reference department were 80,186, an increase of 28,091. The rate produced £2,621. 12s. 7d., and the balance in hand is £125. 16s. 8½d.

Middlesbrough. Annual Report of the Middlesbrough Free Library Committee, November 9th, 1884. Middlesbrough, 1884. 8vo. pp. 12.

The number of vols. in the Library is 11,673; 69,611 vols. were lent during the year. The *Daily Exchange*, will print in future monthly lists of accessions, without charge. The Cleveland Naturalists' Field Club have been invited to assist the Museum Committee in preparing a catalogue of the existing fauna and flora and of the palæontology of the district to assist those who may wish to assist in completing the Middlesbrough Museum. The 1d. rate produced £842 2s. 9d., and fines £31 8s. 2d. The total receipts were £1,041 4s. 8d. 1,077 vols. were purchased for £308 7s. 10d., and 889 bound and repaired for £73 12s. 2d.

Wolverhampton. Fifteenth Annual Report of the Wolverhampton Free Library Committee. Wolverhampton, [October 27th, 1884]. Folio pp. 12.

Improvements have been made in the Library buildings by the Public Works Committee. The circulation of the lending department shows a slight decrease, when compared with last year, being a total of 48,560, or 6,617 fewer than in 1883, the falling off was chiefly in fiction. The entire stock of catalogues has been purchased from the printer and the price reduced to sixpence. 5,926 vols. have been issued in the Reference Library since the last report. The Museum has been enriched by the gift of a cabinet of British Butterflies and Moths, including 6,000 specimens, from Mrs. Spooner. There are 945 students in the Science and other Evening Classes; the number sent up for examination has increased. 941 new borrowers' card were sold. The total number of vols. at present in the Lending Library is 22,029 and in the Reference Library 3,970. No financial information is supplied.

Record of Bibliography and Library Literature.

The Publishers' Trade List Annual, 1884. . . . Twelfth Year. New York: Office of the Publishers' Weekly.

The latest issue of this bulky guide to the book-producing industries of the United States contains about 3,000 pages. In addition to publishers' catalogues it contains a record of books issued from July, 1883, to June, 1884, with an index by authors, titles and subjects, and the American educational catalogue for the year.

Catalogi Bibliothecarvm antiqvi Collegit Gvstavvs Becker. Bonnae: apvd Max Cohen et Fil. A. MDCCCLXXXV. La. 8vo, pp. iv, 329.

This very careful and interesting book deserves a fuller notice than we can devote to it in our present issue, and we merely note here the fact of its appearance (*see ante* p. 160).

Nederlandsche Bibliographie van Land-en Volkenkunde door P. A. Tiele. Amsterdam: Frederik Muller en comp. 1884. La. 8vo, pp. vii, 288.

The services rendered to bibliography by the eminent Dutch bookseller, Frederick Muller, are well known. Those services he contrived to continue after his death by a bequest of the "Frederik Muller-Fonds" for the production of a general Dutch bibliography. The present book is a worthy first instalment of this undertaking. It contains a description of over twelve hundred works on geography and ethnography published in the Netherlands by the learned Librarian of the University of Utrecht.

Le Biblioteche nell' Antichità dai tempi più remoti alla fine dell' impero Romano d'Occidente Ricerche storiche di C. Castellani bibliotecario della Regia Università di Bologna. Bologna: estab. tipo. succ. Monti, 1884. 8vo, xxiv, 60.

Puts together in a convenient form the results of modern research into the history of the ancient libraries—1, of the East; 2, of Greece and Egypt; 3, of Rome.

Dr. J. H. Hessels has contributed to the *Academy* (Sept. 20th, Oct. 4th and 11th) three important articles on "The Palaeographical Publications of the last Twenty-five Years."

The October number of the *Harvard University Bulletin* includes the usual list of additions, with further instalments of the Ptolemy bibliography and of the catalogue of the Kohl collection of early maps.

We have received two numbers of the *Art Age*—a monthly journal of artistic printing published in New York. It is beautifully printed in a large quarto size.

Mr. Axon has contributed to the October number of the *Manchester Quarterly* an interesting paper on "Byron's Influence on European Literature," containing much curious information on foreign translations of Byron.

With the November number the *Bibliographer* comes to a somewhat abrupt termination—leaving several articles unfinished. It is curious to compare the despondent tone of the editor's farewell preface with the "triumphant" vaticination in his introduction to the first number, that the time was not far distant when the dry bones should come together, and "bibliography shall become a physical science!!"

It is, however, succeeded by *Book-Lore*, which will aim to be "more popular." In one respect the traditions of the earlier periodical are continued. The *Bibliographer* was the most inaccurately printed journal that ever called itself bibliographical. So in the first number of the new periodical a four-line epigram from the Greek Anthology is so hideously misprinted as to require some conjectural skill in the reader; and on p. 14 we find this choice bit of Latinity: "*Non nobis tolum nati fumus.*"

The Smithsonian Report for the year 1882 is a volume of some 875 pages, and besides the usual reports and record of scientific progress, contains a "Bibliography of Anthropology for 1882;" a "Bibliography of Publications of the (National) Museum for 1882;" and a "List of Papers by (the late) Dr. G. W. Hawes." The books and articles received by the Smithsonian Institution in 1882 were 11,789, and are for the most part deposited in the Library of Congress.

A Supplement to the Public School Library Bulletin of St. Louis (U.S.), contains "Lists of the best novels, English and Foreign, compiled and selected by Frederick M. Crunden, Librarian, together with Lists of Books for the Young, English and German, selected and arranged for various ages, from eight to twenty years, by a Committee appointed by the St. Louis Pedagogical Society," Mr. Crunden asked a "number of ladies and gentlemen of extended reading and acknowledged taste," to prepare lists of the best ten novels, the next best ten, the best ten novelettes, and the best hundred novels and tabulates the results. He has added Mr. F. B. Perkins' list of the "best Hundred Novels," and other similar lists, Mr. H. H. Morgan has contributed "a prefatory essay," and Miss C. M. Hewins, an "Eighteenth Century Reading for Girls." Altogether this little pamphlet is what Mr. Crunden claims it to be "a reliable Guide for Readers and Librarians."

Notes and Queries.

Notes.

"Shirley Smith," author of *All for herself*, 1877 ; *His last stake*, 1878 ; and *Redeemed*, 1882, is Miss E. J. Curtis ; "Rusticus," the author of *Mystic Land and other poems*, *Pleasures of Hope*, *&c.*, is Mr. George Hickling of Cotgrave, Notts. ; "Emerald Isle," the writer of *Stray Rhymes*, is Mr. Duncan D. Hepburn, formerly of Nottingham, and now of London ; "J. Arbuthnot Wilson" is Grant Allen, the well-known writer ; "Fernan Caballero," the author of *The Bird of Truth, and other Fairy Tales*, is Cecilia Faber ; "An American," who wrote *English Photographs*, is Mr. Stephen Fiske ; the anonymous author of Spencer's *Guide to Sherwood Forest* is Mr. J. Santon, formerly of Loughborough and now of Ramsey, Isle of Man ; and "Arthur Locker," author of *Sweet seventeen*, *Village Surgeon*, *Stephen Scudamore*, and *On a coral reef*, is Mr. J. H. Forbes.

J. Potter Briscoe, *Nottingham.*

Queries.

Who are the authors of the following anonymous books?—*Collieries and the Coal Trade*, 1841 ; *Life among the Colliers*, 1862 ; *Fortunes of a Colonist* ; *Book of Costume*, 1847 ; *Could aught atone? Cruellest wrong of all* ; *Curate's wife* ; *Cuthbert St. Elme, M.P.* ; *Cyril Thornton* ; *Czar* (not Maxwell) ; *Dan to Beersheba* ; *Daybreak* ; *Fallacies of the Faculty* ; *Donald Fraser* ; *Drierstock* ; *Eldad, the pilgrim* ; *Ella Ross* ; *Emily Chester* ; *Emily Grey* ; *Englewood House* ; *Estelle Russell* ; *Fatal Zero* (? Fitzgerald) ; *Bubbles of Finance*, 1805 ; £500. *reward* ; *For wife and child* ; *Frank Harrison* ; *Frank Netherton* ; *From gloom to sunlight* ; *Gerald Hastings* ; *Gilbert Gresham* ; *Grace's visit* ; *Hearts of Oak* (novel) ; *Helen Lindsay* ; *Helen Maurice* ; *Helena's household* ; *Helen's fault* ; *Hilary's folly* ; *Horace Hazlewood* ; *Horrid girl* ; and *Ingledew House.*

N. R. E.

Correspondence.

Subscription Libraries.

Free Public Library, Town Hall, Twickenham, 13*th November*, 1884.

Perusing your valuable publication of recent date I came across several letters referring to systems of subscription which have lately been adopted in public libraries. As it may interest some of your readers, I enclose a few particulars of one which we have recently adopted, and which has so far worked exceedingly well, and is appreciated by the borrowers. If its present success continues, it is the intention of the Committee to increase the subscription, so that fiction (which has been avoided) shall be included in our lists. You will learn the particulars from the cutting which I have the pleasure to enclose. No charge whatever is made to our readers, and the following are the Rules :—

Special Rules for Subscription—Borrowed Books Department :—

1. The librarian shall determine how many days shall be allowed for each volume, and shall enter such number inside the book.

2. Any borrower detaining a book beyond the time allowed shall pay a fine of one penny per day for the first three days, when the fine will be increased to twopence per day until the work is returned. Any person detaining a book more than six days may be deprived of borrowing these books.

3. No one shall take out the same book a second time until at least three days after he has returned it.

4. The books that are in the library shall be exposed, so that the borrower may see what books are in.

C. D. S. Rabbitt.

"Notices of Books" are unavoidably postponed to the next number.

Printed and published for the Library Association of the United Kingdom by J. Davy & Sons, *at the Dryden Press*, 137, *Long Acre, London. Annual Subscription, post free*, 6*s.*